

INTERNATIONAL Guardia

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Mother insists son should stay and demands support

The reclusive Barclay brothers' battle with Sark



Richard Williams on a tangled relationship



Education

coking gift horses in the mouth

G2 page 10/11

Tory chief in Euro fiasco

Patrick Wintour

HE Conservative Party chairman, Brian Mawhin-ney, has infuriated pro-European MPs by ordering the cancellation of a conference being organised by the party's MEPs, because he fears it could be a magnet for Euro-sceptic criticism.

The Central Office-spon sored conference was being planned in July by Tom Spencer, the chairman of the Conservatives in the European Parliament Speakers were to have included members of the Cabinet. One increasingly frustrated pro-European MP described the action "as an

other act of appearament. Chamenell, Setw It is now likely that Central hierarchy and in Office will only allow the generally far more pro-European Tory MEPs to hold a small scale seminar with business-men on the future of Europe.

The Tory MEPs held a smaller scale European conference last year addressed by Leon Brittan, the former Cabinet minister and vice-presiever, Mr Spencer had been planning a more prestigous event this year in London or Birmingham, but Mr Ma-whinney cancelled the

project.
The timing of the cancella-tion could not be worse for pro-Europeans since their rivals on the party's increas ingly-confident Euro-sceptic wing are determined to ex-ploit public confusion over the beef crisis to push John Major into a irreversibly anti-EU stance in time for the elec-

tion campaign.
Yesterday party officials
gave discreet endorsement to
weekend reports that the
Prime Minister had privately been so angry with his EU colleagues for their lack of support over British beef exports that he referred to them

Fleet Street to abundon a Majorite loyalist line in favour of a Euro-sceptic campaign, one leading sceptic, Iain Duncan-Smith, Norman Tebbit's successor in Chingford, will today test the waters by launching a Commons bill under the 10 minute rule.

Backed by John Redwood and up to 100 colleagues, the bill - which stands little chance of becoming law — would assert the primacy of would assert the primacy of British parliamentary legisla-tion over Brussels-made law and rulings from the Euro-pean Court of Justice. Sup-porters say it would simply copy what Germany's su-

efforts to stop them "going hative" over Europe and the creation of a Maison office at fory HQ to prevent them

drifting spart.
The row will fuel speculation among MEPs first the Conservatives will split high pro and anti-European factions after the expected Gen-eral Election defeat.

Some pro-European Fory MPs at Westminster fear that may happen. A few are among the hardcore of MPs, mostly on the Right, who want Mr Major to step down as party

There is no convincing see who could unite the party and the man fancied by some, the deputy prime minister. Michael Heseltine, last night tried to curb this weekend's sabre-rattling over the beef

Speaking on Channel 4
News Mr. Heseltine, whom
sceptics claim is taking a
hardline over beef, warned it
would be "quite wrong to
build up expectations and
adopt a semi-macho stance" when the crisis would best be resolved by diplomacy.

With the Daily Express yes-terday becoming the last of the traditional Tory papers in page 2

Richard Wilding, 13, with his father Philip and mother Rits. 'It's not fair,' he says

New-school option for boy in strike row

Donald MacLeod Education Correspo

DUCATION officials will today meet the parents of a violent 13-year-old boy in an effort to prevent a strike by teachers who refuse to have him

in class.
Yesterdey Richard Wild-ing was back at Glaisdale school in Nottingham after an appeal panel rejected the decision of the head teacher and governors to portunity from my country—
I'm very proud to be involved," said the princess.
When I speak about the various subjects, whatever it is, I find it's more beneficial if I've seen it for myself."

teacher and governors to expel him for violent and disruptive behaviour.
Twenty teachers, members of Schoolmasters Union of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers. of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers, are pre-paring an indefinite strike from Friday.

Nottinghamshire education authority said of today's meeting: "It is hoped that an accommoda tion can be found which will satisfy all parties and avoid the teachers following through their threat."
It is expected to offer

Exclusions Estimated numbers of pupils sermanently excluded from 109 LEAs, England, Sept 93 - July 94.

could be offered specialist tuition and support, and at-tend part-time at a unit for children with emotional and behavioural difficulties. Richard's parents may refuse such an offer.

The boy has been involved in more than 30 inci-dents and been suspended four times since November. The union demanded that he be taught at a special



son should stay at the school. "It is disgusting to strike over my son. It has all been blown up out of proportion. Richard is not as bad as they make out, and if he is given the right

rying a bad reputation around with me and I won't know anybody in the other school if I go to another

one."
Gillian Shephard, the
Education Secretary, promised measures to tighten school discipline. She blamed the Labour-run education authority, as the Opposition accused her of using the case as a "smokescreen for the failure of 17 years of Tory government to address the problems of school discipline". Mrs Shephard's measures

include making parents sign up to a school's disci-pline policies before a child is admitted. Schools would be given powers to detain pupils as a punishment and more flexibility to suspend unruly pupils.

The number of children expelled in England has risen from 11,000 in 1993/ 94 to an estimated 15,000 this year. Pressures to achieve good exam results and rising class sizes have been blamed.

Chalk and choosed, G2 front

Birmingham Six 'suffered irreversible traumas'

David Pallister

HE Birmingham Six. who were released on appeal in 1991 after 16
years in prison for the
1974 IRA pub bombings, suffered irreversible mental trauma as severe as brain-damaged accident victims, ac-cording to a leading medical

cording to a leading medical expert.

The investigation into their mental state was commissioned by their lawyers from Adrian Grounds, a psychiatrist from the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge.

Gareth Peirce, the solicitor for five of the men, said yesterday: "The Home Office has conducted no scientific investigation."

conducted no scientific investigation into the effects of wrongful imprisonment on

"They all suffered irreversible psychological damage but to a degree [Dr Grounds] had not observed before, except in people who had suffered brain damage and trauma from serious accidents."

Dr Grounds, who is also a consultant forensic psychia-trist at Addenbrookes Hospital, said yesterday he saw four of the Birmingham Six and one from the Guildford Four. "They all had been sev-erely traumatised by their experiences. This was not what I expected," he told The

Guardian. Three years afte sitent and disabling post-trau-

matic stress syndromes. "Enduring personality change following catastrophic experience is a recognised psychiatric disorder that can follow chronic traums. They all had this condition to a very disabling degree. "Emotional estrangement

from others and profound dif-ficulties in coping with close relationships were particu-larly marked. It often made them impossible to live with. "These are similar clinical

symptoms of brain-damaged people. I have found the same in the victims of war crimes and other people with post-traumatic stress disorder."

Dr Grounds' work, based on extensive interviews with the men and their families, was submitted to the Home Office as part of the men's claims for compensation. Their lawyers are to seek an early meeting with the Government's compensation assessor about what they believe are inadequate final offers. One of the six, Gerry Hunter, has still

He has claimed nearly £1.5 million in general damages and for pecuniary loss. The other five have been offered between about £220,000 and £316,000.

Some Tory MPs said yester-

day that the six should not have been given a penny.

Assessment of damages for miscarriages of justice are made by Sir David Calcutt, QC. He was appointed by the Home Office under the 1885 Criminal Justice Act but there are no written criteria. there are no written criteria for his calculations. While ministers approve in princi-ple the payment of compensa-tion, he is left to his own devices to calculate the figures.

A Home Office spokesman said: "There is no formula for working these things out. We expect him to arrive at a fair

ise offers for the Guildford Four, seven years after they were also released on appeal from life sentences for pub bombings in 1974. Gerry Conlon, one of the Four, made his submission three years ago.

Ivan Geffen, Mr Hunter's solicitor, said: "The assessor has to look at destruction of family life, loss of earnings and pension and general suf-fering. Our counsel put in a claim which he thought has very hard-headed and modest turn to page 2, column 3

Prague Writers' Festival 1996

The Viola Theatre, May 9-11

This year the Prague Writers' Festival, directed by Michael March, will once again showcase a selection of fine authors from around the world. Under the festival's theme of "Ancient Evenings", writers including R.S. Thomas from Wales, Sylva Fischerová of the Czech Republic, and Jim Barnes from the USA will be presenting their work at the festival. There visitors can enjoy a rare opportunity to listen to, and meet, these renowned international authors.

> For more details call: 44 (0) 171 7134133

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The Guardian

Operation 'stunt' by queen of hearts appals agony aunt

ER aim, she said, was to be the queen of all our hearts. But yesterday the Princess of Wales was branded an ace at self-public-ity after she took her role a

little too literally.

Trailed by television cameras, she watched as Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub performed sir Magui Tacour beart operation on Arnaud Wambo, aged seven, at Harefield hospital, Middle-sex. Wambo was brought from Cameroon by the charity Chain of Hope for surgery, not available in his country, to mend a hole in his heart. "I'm a great lover of chil-

Fve seen it for myself."
But Claire Rayner, an ag-ony aunt and former theatre nurse, said she was appalled at the "stunt". "I think doing harity is about being private and quiet and not being in the limelight. There is every reason to have other observ-ers ... but to have someone going along to gawp for the sake of gawping and pretend she is part of the scene. I would not have allowed it."

Richard a place in another unit, or teachers and other mainstream school. But he pupils would be risk.



support he can cope with mainstream schooling." Richard said he would be unhappy if he was forced to leave Glaisdale School. "It's not fair, they're taking it out on the other kids and

Sport Obituaries 10 Michael Atherton Arts 8/9; Women 12/13; Radio 16; TV 16

World News

Economics

was confirmed as captain of the England cricket team for the series against India this surramer.

Sketch

MPs taken with a pinch of salt



Simon Hoggart

NCE a month, for just 10 minutes, MPs have tions about a topic of overwhelming interest and importance - themselves. Their queries are addressed to Alan Beith, the Liberal Democrat MP who answers on behalf of the House of Commons

Mr Beith is a mild man with an obliging manner, though he is a toughie inside — like a bank clerk with attitude. Sir Clement Freud used to sugst that he had a secret life as the Yorkshire Ripper, though of course this was complete

Nick Ainger (Lab, Pem-broke) said he had heard there might be a plan to charge people £5 a head to tour the Houses of Parliament. He was "horrified" to think schoolchildren might have to fork

out this sum. It is an article of faith among MPs that touring the House will give our children an abiding faith in our democracy. Frankly, a glimpse of the social inadequates, time-servers, grotesques and general misfits — that's just the Cabinet — would make any reasonable child prefer government through divining goats'

However, Mr Ainger also thought there ought to be ca-tering provision for tourists in Westminster Hall, so that weary visitors could have "a cup of tea and a sandwich". This idea has caused some controversy, since Westminster Hall is perhaps the most thunderously historic building in the country. Among the unfortunates tried there (the execution was pre-arranged. in those days but you always got a fair trial first) were St Thomas More and Mel Gibson in his earlier incarnation as William Wallace.

So the heritage industry could easily cash in with the

act, slightly scary

First night

Bob Flynn

Maria McKee

The Arches, Glasgow

N THE middle of a parade of

new American-Canadian

pop princesses — Aianis

Morissette was in town the night before, with ko lang

wafting in later — Maria

McKee appeared in a venue disturbingly like something

out of Terry Gilliam's Twelve Monkeys. The Arches' vaulted

caverns are covered with air ducts and its recesses tremble

appropriate for McKee in her black dress, diamante jewel-

lery and high-coloured make-

up, offset by a strapped-on guitar like a road movie diva. Enjoying acidic exchanges with a raucous audience, one

of the most under-rated voices

of new female rock blasted the cat-calling males with: "I know, I know, get your tits out." This is the singer Court-

ney Love would like to be. Here is the girl who was the

voice of Lone Star long before

Alanis Morissette came out of Canada, who went solo and

topped the charts with 1990's

Show Me Heaven and didn't

care. Instead of following the

yellow brick road to power pop

stardom, she bought a house in

Dublin with the royalties and stayed there for years before returning to the swamp roots

of American music. They predicted she would

be the next Cher. but McKee

eschewed bare-buttocked pop

balladeering and reacted vio-

lently against the sex siren

16-year-old, timber-felling

with the Central Station trains rolling overhead. Somehow the setting was bar and the Braveheart Individual Portion Pizzeria, Mr Beith, however, seemed dis-missive of all these plans.

Gwyneth Dunwoody (Lab. Crewe and Nantwich) paused for a tribute to the Serieant at lace, is a fictionalised figure from our historical past. dressed in a ludicrous overthe top costume, though with out the blue paint down his

"The Serjeant at Arms has a great cross to bear," she said, "there really are some intoler able Members of Parliament ... and he actually deals with us very kindly."

At first I assumed that Mrs Dunwoody had misunderstood the purpose of parlismentary toadying; she may have thought that, come the Labour government, the Ser-jeant might give her a job. she is one of a fine, dying breed: MPs who like being offensive about other MPs for the pure joy of it.

Ann Clwyd (Lab, Cynon Valley) raised a real scandal: staff in the Members' Dining Room used to have stools so they could take the weight off their feet between courses. These have been removed, be cause the catering manager resses resting was "un-

sightly". Mr Beith wriggled out of that one; since this mean-spirited decision (and what if young ladies were invited instead to sit on Members' kno instead?) affected staff in only one restaurant, it did not apply to all waitpersons, and so did not fall under the commission's remit. John Marshall (C, Hendon

S) closed the argument down. Was it the case that some members of the catering staff. he asked with unconcealed outrage, actually earned more than MPs? "Yes," said Mr

We used to have a family game of inventing dishes which sounded almost all right but were truly off-putting. "Avocado whelks" was one. Mike Leigh had the same in which the hero opens a res-taurant that fails, serving the But this is the equivalent of what MPs serve us every day.

The last time she visited Brit-

ain she wore Oxfam clothes and no make-up, while deliv-ering concerts boiling with a

So, instead of the stadia she

is underneath The Arches.

reducing men to slavering

pubescent boys. The irony of the shouted request (male) for Like A Virgin was not lost on

McKee, who still looks as if

she would be happier shooting out the porch lights and kick-

ing the boys from the trees.

poignant bluesy ballads to spitting punkish rock. When

she sings she lets go com-pletely, stamping her feet and shivering with emotion, the

tempestuous voice ricochet-

If Tom Waits and Ricki Lee lones had had a daughter, this would be her, and Panic Beach, a Waits-style epic was a mesmeric elegy with McKee using a vocal switch-back of

emotions and tones. Breathe,

an unusually gentle love song had the crowd in awed silence the delivery so anguished and

poised that the song became a hymn that was almost scary.

out chunks of feedback, her

voice surfing over the noise.
Absolutely Barking Stars
and Scar Lover, from her new
album, extended into sonic

charges of guitar and voice, love songs on the verge of a

ous grandeur of McKee's

nervous breakdown. The fur

voice has rarely been capture on record, but do not miss the

concerts, for this is one of the

most bewitching American

With her guitar, McKee scraped, wailed and battered

ng off the walls.

No Madonna covers, but a stunning display from an art-ist trying to join up all the parts of American music, from

Talk of counter-action rings hollow as ministers prepare to accept phased lifting of EU export ban

Major to retreat on beef

John Palmer in Luxemboury and Michael White

ing of the European Union's worldwide ban on British beef exports. in a striking switch of tactics thing we would not be ready from its original demand for an immediate and total said after a meeting of EU foremoval of the embargo.

Despite sabre-rattling among Euro-sceptical Conser-vative MPs at Westminster, and a reluctance by Downing Street to quell the threats of counter-action in the media. ew Tories, including John the basis of the medical evi-Redwood, believe the Govern-ment will take illegal action.

me British government is ready to retaliate with trade sanctions, or by witholding Britain's £800 million budget contribution, if the ban is not rapidly removed.
"We should not say any-

> eign ministers in Luxembourg. "We must be sure the language we use is sober and carefully thought out. 'The best way to restore confidence is for governments

be given to other options. But that is not the best solution." He said many EU foreign ministers, as well as the European Commission president, Jacques Santer, had said they would do their best to restore

confidence in British beef.

would prove counter-productive, while some in the Brit-ish camp point out that even the "empty chair" option — the only legal protest gesture — would rapidly backfire. throughout Europe to act on dence, and not on the basis of

The extent to which the EU's ban will be eased in the near future will become

The Foreign Secretary, Malarival in Luxembourg. "If Rrussels today between the Northern Ireland, where the suggesting that John Major color Rifkind, last night distanced himself from reports that couldn't be delivered, in farm minister, Douglas Hogg, incidence of BSE has been far was ready to impose sweeping and the agriculture commission lower than in Rugland. Hogg will insist there is no scientific evidence for continuing the ban, and he will

recall Mr Fischler's own readiness to eat British beef. But with the prospects of a total lifting of the ban remote, Privately, EU officials warned that illegal retaliation the Government appears ready to consider interim measures, such as the removal of the ban from beef fed on grass, as well as from exports of cosmetic and other pharmaceutical products made from beef.

Any lifting of the ban from high quality, grass-fed beef producers would be particu-

"We are not talking here about lifting the ban on a regional basis, because we want the UK case considered as a whole," one British source said. "But it might be possible to discuss other interim steps, such as removing grass-fed beef from the ban at

an early stage."

Although the final decision will be taken by vetinary ex-perts and EU farm ministers. few EU governments are ready to back a radical or rapid removal of the total ban. Nor were the other EU foreign ministers in Luxem-bourg impressed by headlines in some British newspapers.

"Trade sanctions of this kind could trigger tit-for-tat counter measures and a real crisis," one senior commis-sion official warned. The Irish minister, Gay Mitchell, said: "Mr Rifidind made no threat in any way."

The Government would be certain to be taken to the European Court of Justice if it imposed trade sanctions.
"Given that it is the UK which is challenging the beef ban in the European Court, this could lead to a rather ridiculous situation," one EU

The Birmingham Six . . . then and now



PADDY JOE HILL, 51, who famously punched the air in a victory salute when he emerged from the Old Bailey in 1991, has never concealed the trauma of freedom. He was divorced from his wife Pat in 1983 and she remarried. They had six children. He still lives in London with his girlfriend.

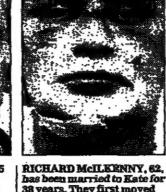
campaigner against injus-

states within the first year

tice, speaking in 15 US

of his release.

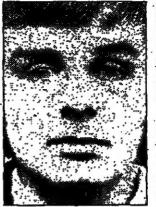
HUGH CALLAGHAN, at 65 the oldest of the men, remained in London after his release, struggling to re-establish life with his wife Sileen. Their only daughter. Geraldine, lost her husband in car crash shortly after his release, when she was expecting her second child. In 1993 he published his autobiography, Cruel Fate, in which he says he has no bitterness. "I do feel a great sadness at the futil-ity of it all," he wrote.



has been married to Kate for 38 years. They first moved to Dublin and now have a house with two big gardens in a village in Co Kildare. One of their five children. Ann, moved to the same village with her three children, and some of their many grandchildren often come to stay over the holi-days. "We live a quiet life, said yesterday.



GERRY HUNTER, 47. broke up with Sandra, his wife of 25 years, three months after his release, although they remain close friends. They have three children. He lives in south-east London but has not worked since he left prison, where he was the most private and withdrawn of the Six. Freedom transformed him and restored his humour. He, too, went public, visiting relatives of prisoners on



BILLY POWER, 49, was amicably divorced by his wife Nora in 1990 after the first, failed appeal, but she remained one of the most active campaigners and they remarkled after his release. "It was the most natural thing in the world," he said. They have four children and still live in London. Mr Power has spent much time campaigning on other miscarriages of



JOHNNY WALKER, 60, had been married to Theresa on his release in 1991. She left Birmingham shortly after the bombings to live in Derry with their six daugh-ters and one son. Mr Walker joined them and they bought a new house, but he found it impossible to fit into family life. The couple separated after a year. Mr Walker has remarried and lives in Donegal with a



Sir David was unavailable

Lisa Buckingham



Freed men's that all six had been given final offers of up to \$400,000 and were about to challenge this in the High Court led to criticism from Tory MPs.

Dame Jill Knight, the MP

Dame Film River part of the vice the probably in some to the probably in some to the families of the vice the vice the vice the vice the families of the vice the vic

Mail group buys into ITN



"This is an insult to the sys-tem and although they have

was made and they would be far better to keep quiet about



been cleared, an assessment | first place, and certainly don't | to have identified the real deserve any increase on the amount already offered by the reluctant British taxpayer."



bombers, said: "What the men really wanted when they came out was some help in coming to terms with their lives, but none of that was

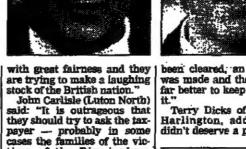


continued from page 1 but my view is that it should be nearer £3 million."



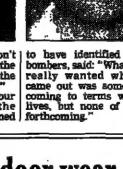
for Birmingham Edghaston, said: "Many people in Bir-mingham and I have no doubt over a much wider area will

be infuriated at the effrontery



tims of the Birmingham bombings — for an additional sum, if indeed any sum at all."

Terry Dicks of Hayes and Chris Mullin, the Labour Harlington, added: "They didn't deserve a penny in the men's innocence and claimed



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"I use my own body because that's where I live" - unlike a long line of artists who preferred to use women's bodies.

Bea Campbell on Gormley's Angel

Daily Mail and General Trust

SSOCIATED News papers, which owns the Daily Mail and London Evening Standard, vesterday paid £20.2 million for one fifth

of the news broadcaster, ITN. The deal underlined the The deal undertured the company's diversification into radio, television and other "new media" outlets where it has been an aggres-

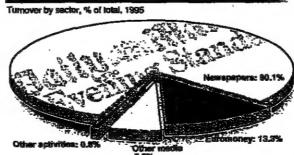
sive purchaser recently.

Associated's entree into
ITN arose because ITV companies, Granada and Carlton Communications, were forced to sell a sizeable slug of their shares. They each controlled
36 per cent of ITN as a result
of having taken over other
ITV companies — Cariton
bought Central TV while Gra-

nada took over LWT. A ruling by the Indepen-dent Television Commission forced them to reduce their stake in ITN to 20 per cent. Associated has bought 10 per cent of each company's shares, meaning Carlton and Granada still have a joint 12 per cent of shares to sell be-fore they fall into line with

the ITC guidelines.
It is understood these shares will soon be sold, with MAI, the company which owns Meridian TV, rumoured to be a possible purchaser. Insiders say the resolution

of ITN's shareholding im-passe should open the way for the newscaster to cement its role as sole provider of news to the ITV network. It has been under pressure to reduce the cost of this service because of threatened compe-titlon for the contract from Rupert Murdoch's BSkyB. doubts that the prime bulled formation service, Teletext.



What they do

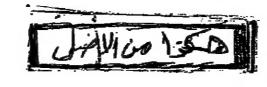
Own 70,3% of Euromoney plus magazinee, authibitions, cable as TV production companies includ Channel One in London. People Third largest publisher of provincial newspapers, including Natingham Evening Post Group, through Northolitte.

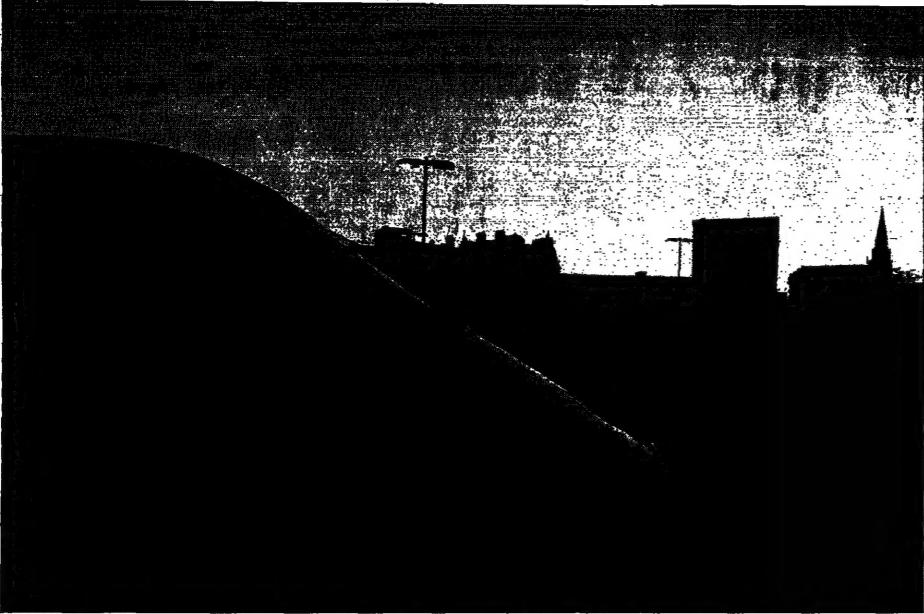
ASSOCIATOS Various stakes including (%):

20 22 SelecTV

Sources close to ITN, which made profits of £15.3 million radio group, GWR, and Classic FM. It has 20 per cent of the company. West-1985, say that stabilisation of the ITV company. West-the ownership structure country TV. and a 45 per cent

and is expected to cut its tin. News at Ten, will be annual fee of about 255 mil- forced to change its time slot.





The way ahead . . . more and better services are expected at Eurotunuel terminals such as Waterloo, in an effort to compete with ferry duty frees.

Eurotunnel goes to war with £900m loss Publication of tors.

Summer price war forecast as firm offers 'more grief' for ferries

lan King

CROSS-Channel orice war looks inev nel, the Channel tunnel

losses and promised "more

Although he refused to go into details, Sir Alastair said Eurotunnel's services would be marketed more aggres-



Stena will have to cut sailings, Eurotunnel forecasts



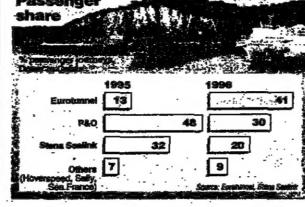
Chunnel terminals, and al-though Eurodininel yesterday ruled out a price war, ana-lysis expect prices to fall.

net losses of £925 million for the year — one of the worst figures in British corporate history.

An ebullient Sir Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel's co-chairman, brushed aside the losses and promised "more side that history in the chairman and the control of the worst proup's position as market companies had increased delly crossings on the Dovergorous improvement in the quality and he accused them of subsidering for the companies of the control of the worst proup's position as market companies and increased delly crossings on the Dovergorous improvement in the quality and he accused them of subsidering for the worst proup is position. As market companies and increased delly crossings on the Dovergorous improvement in the quality and he accused them of subsidering for the worst proup is position as market companies and increased delly crossings on the Dovergorous and proposition as market companies and increased delly crossings on the Dovergorous and proposition as market companies and increased delly crossings on the Dovergorous and proposition as market companies and increased delly crossings on the Dovergorous and proposition as market companies and proposition as

hurting the ferries where they need to be hurt, and hope Sir Alastair also predicted they will start to rationalise that cross Channel farty oper-stors, such as P&O and long as they don't, we'll hart them more and more."

This remarks were setzed on



accused Eurotunnel of trying to create a monopoly by pricing its competitors out of the market. by Stena Sealink, which accused Eurotunnel of trying to create a monopoly by pricting to competition authorities in

Stena spokesman Brian now to inflict pain on ferry operators to establish themves as a monopoly player that's predatory pricing, and the economics of the

madhouse."
Mr Rees indicated that if Mr Rees indicated that if terest payments on its ERS Noteboo Eurotunnel were guilty of billion debt last September, page 12

insisted that the results, in-cluding interest payments of £768 million, were in line Sir Alastair admitted that

the figures were disappointing, but pointed out that Eurotunnel — whose losses work out at £1,760 a minute had grabbed almost half the cross-Channel market in its first year of operations, making it market leader. "Not many companies go from zero to 45 per cent in their first year, so perhaps we've actually done rather well."

However, the City reacted with disappointment at Sir Alastair's failure to come up with news on negotiations with Eurotunnel's bankers and marked the shares down

4½p to 69p. Eurotunnel's 226 bankers As part of its drive to compete with Eurotunnel, Stena would cut up to a third off the though Sir Alastair denied it price of its best-selling duty free cigarettes and spirits in May, to coincide with the in Eurotunnel looks likely. launch of two new high-speed

Shares soar as left takes over in Italy

last night readying it-self for its first real tasts of power after an historic victory in Sunday's general election. Final results showed the Olive Tree alli-ance of former Communists, the Socialists, progressive Christian Democrats, and Greens could enjoy a clear majority in the lower house of rliament — but only with up from hardline Markists. Fears that this could lead to tensions within the ruling co-alition were brushed aside by

investors who saw in the results a chance for stable government by a respected is Romano Prodi, a Bologna mer chairman of the state holding company IRI.

Share values soared by almost 5 per cent on the Milan Stock Exchange but bond prices and the value of the lira dipped later on figures in-dicating a resurgence of

That is one of many probems facing the new government in a country which needs thorough reform. Prof Prodi said his first steps would include cutting interests rates and rejoining the European Union's exchange

His right-hand man. Walter cluded a simplification of tor-tuous tax regulations and aid to small businesses in the depressed south.

Asked if Italy might be in for a period of austerity, Prof Prodi said: "If seriousness is vision tycoon, who is being tried for corruption, said his alliance, which includes free-marketeers, former neo-fascists and ex-Christian Demo-crats, was "important for keeping Italy within the bounds of a true democracy".

The Olive Tree alliance will need the support of the ortho-dox Marxists of Communist promised to "help give birth" to a centre left administra-tion. But he made it clear he boped to influence the government "in a programme way". His campaign proposal for a return to index-linked

pay was, nevertheless, vigor-ously brushed aside.

Olive Tree could, in theory, seek the support of the feder-alist Northern League, which did better than expected in Sunday's ballot. But the League's leader, Umberto secession during the campaign, scorned any sort of pact with either of the two na-

ionally-based blocs. He said: We shall be going to Rome in the certainty that the orth knows how to free itself from the colonialist power."
At the Vatican, a key force
in blocking the Communists from power after the second world war, Father Federico Lombardi, the director of pro-grammes for Vatican radio, said he hoped the result would usher in a period of stable government "so as to He noted that, for the first time, the Church had not given the faithful advice on

Unions let in on **Blair manifesto**

unions and the Labour leadership yesterday agreed a deal which will let the unions have a say in drawing up the party's manifesto.

The deal, which allows the

iot, will help defuse the row which followed Tony Blair's lecision to ballot the party's entire membership. It was agreed at a meeting

at Congress House between Mr Blair, the deputy leader John Prescott and a handful of senior union leaders.

The move to ballot the

350,000 membership would have been the first time that a key part of Labour policy-making had excluded the unions. The proposal had caused anger and anxiety with unions over Mr Blair's plans for union-party

relations.
Yesterday's agreement
means that Labour's pre-election manifesto, due to be pubtion manifesto, due to be pub-lished this summer, will be put to a ballot of party and union members, probably the biggest pre-election endorse-ment ever sought by a West-ern political party. The GMB union's general secretary, John Edmonds, was instrumental in persuad.

was instrumental in persuad-ing his fellow union leaders that the best response to Mr Blair's membership-only ballot move was to co-ordinate unions' ballots. It now seems all the big unions — the Transport and General Workthe Communication Workers Union and the AEEU — will hold ballots of all their political levy payers on the

Such is the unions' determi-

they will collectively spend close to £1 million from their political funds on the ballots, even though the money might have been expected to be passed to Labour's general election coffers.

Even if Mr Blair and his ad visers might privately like gradually to distance Labour from the unions, the latter's ballot decision represents a political gain for him as well since the unions will be holdsince the timors will be notified in an effort to prove they are not second-class democrats.

Mr Blair was last year flercely critical of some

unions for failing to hold proper ballots over his planned changes to Clause 4 of the party constitution.

Yesterday's meeting had also been called in the wake of anger in some union quar-ters over the speed with which Mr Balir announced his plan for a membership ballot on the manifesto.

Despite the better atmosphere at yesterday's meeting, key issues still remain unresolved. It is not clear whether the unions' vote will be counted union by union a method which could reveal for example, unease in the rail unions over Labour's plans to renationalise the

railways.

The ballot is likely to be held after the Labour Party conference in October and, from Mr Blair's point of view, will make explicit his plans for government, as well as undermine Tory claims he is leading an unmodernised party unenthused by political direction in which he has marched them over the past

Torius feel heat, page 4; Lander comment, letters

Golfer punches hole in etiquette

idear wear

ver there

o get over her

OLF is meant to be the best behaved of sports, and its players abide by a gentlemanty etiquette. One particular unwritten

rule, however, which the uninitiated would do well uninitiated would do well to remember, is this: never tee off when the people in front you are still in range.

Terry Duke didn't take this advice. He ended up with a handicap no perfect swing could remedy—a broken jaw. Portsmouth crown court

heard yesterday how a row at a Hampshire club over a breach of the gentleman's code resulted in one of the most violent outbreaks of "golf rage" ever witnessed.
Mr Duke, a builder aged 57,
was taken to hospital after
he was whacked with his own club by a man ahead of



Terry Duke: played shot despite players in front

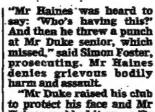
handicap player, teed off on the 14th hole of the Cams Hall Estate golf course, and the ball flew past the group in front. The court heard that Peter shouted "fore" and the group, including Charles Haines, a 54-year-old businessman, quickly moved to the side. him at the same hole.

The incident began when Mr Duke's son Peter, a low-to his tee, Haines walked



Charles Haines: hit Duke in the face with his own club

out into the middle of the fairway and stood with his hands on his hips staring back at him some 250 yards away. Mr Duke played the shot, all the same. Shortly afterwards, as the Dukes prepared to play their approach shots to the green, Mr Haines jogged back up the fairway and started threatening them.



to protect his face and Mr Haines grabbed it away. He then swung it around his head, hitting Mr Duke on the right-hand side of his face." Mr Foster told the

Mr Duke again and grabbed his shirt, ripping it as the two men fell to the ground. Then an unsightly fight took place between the two men, before others arrived

The court heard that Mr Duke tried to retaliate as Mr Haines was dragged away, but he was restrained. Both men have since been expelled from the 22,850-a-year club. The

Molly Keane, chronicler of dextrous monstrosities, dies

HE Irish writer, Molly Keane, whose twin careers spanned more than 60 years, has died aged 91. Her first stories were pub-lished in 1934. She had plays

directed by Sir John Gielgud in London's West End in the same decade, under the pen name MJ Farrell. After a long obscurity, she was rediscovered in 1981, when her novel, Good Behaviour, was short-listed for the Booker Prize

under her own name.

This late second flowering was comparable only with the reemergence of the novelist. Jean Rhys, in the 1970s.

Ms Keane lived for much of her later life in a whitewashed cottage in County Waterford. All that her surviving high society friends

wateriori. An that her surviving high society friends
were apt to say of her later
writing was "I didn't find one
spelling mistake".
She said: "My books don't
feel part of my life. I've only
ever done it for the money.

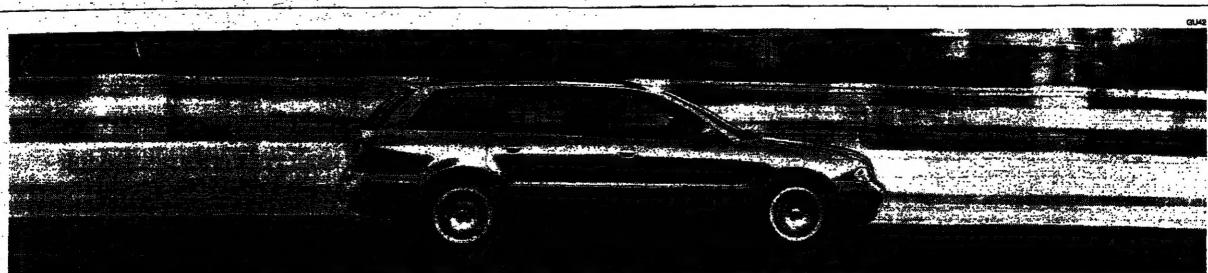
When someone tells me

they've liked my book, I may feel 2 kind of drunken warmth. But I somehow feel they're talking to someone She grew up as an upper-class Anglo-Irish gentleman's daughter. Borrowing her pseudonym from an Irish pub licensee's name she had no-ticed while hunting she had

Spring Meeting, the first of five plays, performed in London in 1938.

The death of her husband, Bobby, at a youthful age silenced her artistically until the 1970s. the 1970s.

"I see little cruelties very plainly," she said. "People can be hideously unkind. I have often watched the dextrous monstrosities between the rich and not-so-rich." Her subsequent novels were Time after Time, which, like Good Behaviour, was televised, followed by Nursery Cooking and Loving and Giving.



The new Audi A4 Avant. Drive one, and you'll never drive an estate.

Stoke-on-Trent city council STAFFORDSHIR tested for the new unitary authority which begins work on April 1, 1997 STAFFS MPs O Joan Walley (Stoke-on-Trent North, Labour majority 14,777) Mark Fisher O Mark Fisher Stoke-on-Trent Central,

Abour majority 6,909)

Famous sons

(1947-61) and Stoke City (1961-65) eiso played for England 55 times.

Labour majority 13,420)

oke-on-Trent Central

George Stevenson

Huny On

Down' in 1953, also a noted poet -on-Trent. A prize winn

WARICKSHIRE

Tories feel heat as Five Towns vote as one

The Tories fuce a "massacre in contested in the local electhe Potteries" at Stoke in next tions. The balance of 10 week's local elections. Martyn Tories emerged during days Halsall visits a city preparing for the restoration of its power

HE writer J B Priestley went to Stoke-on-Trent and found only a "mythical city". Architectural guru Nikolaus Pevsner despaired over "an urban tragedy". But the capital of the Potteries, which is preparing to take back all its services next year for the first time since 1974, remains un-ashamed of its industrial past

The "unique" city of six towns — "Arnold Bennett missed one out and the people him," said a local patriot — now invites visitors to its historic potteries to "feel the heat and taste the soot." It is also preparing for a political massacre on May 2, predicts Stoke's Labour leader Ted Smith.

tions. The balance of 10 Tories emerged during days of disillusionment after the last general election, but this time Mr Smith has found Labour fervour unparalleled since his first involvement in local politics in 1945, the year of Labour's landslide victory

and hearing people saying: "Labour, yes, no problem," he said. His forecast for Tory rivals is crisp: "And then Nigel Howle, who has

gauged the political pendulum for the past five years for the Stoke Sentinel newspaper thinks that a 58-two Labour Tory result is a fair forecast. With up to nine candidates in some of the 20 wards, a novel Lib-Dem presence is also

ported by Cheryl Tooze, the daughter of the murdered couple. She has offered a

reward of £25,000 for informa-

tion leading to the conviction of the "real killers".

The Toozes were both shot in the back of the head with a

shotgun from a distance of

three feet, John Rees QC. for Jones, told Lord Justice Rose,

sitting with Mr Justice Dyson and Mr Justice Gage.

"They were, in short, exe-cuted," said Mr Rees, "Both were killed in identical fash-

ion in the most callous way."

Jones's only experience of handling guns had been at the age of 13 or 14 when he

The "photocopy" similarity of the two shootings indicated

attended a naval base.

said in a private letter to Mr Jones's counsel: "I am bound to record that the verdict caused me some surprise."

that the gunman knew exact-ly what he was doing. Mrs Tooze had been trying to es-cape when she was shot.

Court of Appeal told girlfriend's |

parents shot by experienced

gunman in 'callous execution'

MAN convicted of

killing his girl-

friend's parents did not have the expert-

ise to fire the gun, the Court of Appeal heard yesterday. Jonathan Jones, aged 35, had only ever handled a gun

as a schoolboy 20 years ear-

lier while the shots that killed Harry Tooze, aged 64 and his wife, Megan, aged 67, at their farmhouse in mid-Glamorgan

in July 1993 had been fired by

an experienced gunman.

Jones is appealing against

his conviction for murder at

Newport crown court in April

last year by a 10-2 majority

after a 50-day trial. The trial

judge, Mr Justice Rougier,

"It's lovely knocking on doors with your colours on

The next year will be spent preparing for the new respon-

ducation, social services, li- | their vulnerability. braries, and consumer protec-tion are returned from Staffordshire county council

The 20 councillors with the est majorities will not face the electorate again until 2000. There will be no local elections in 1997 and for the

been that Jones, from Orping-ton in Kent, killed the Toozes

because he believed that

through Cheryl he would in-

herit up to £150,000 which would help fund a market

research business. The de-

had no such motive and had been in Orpington looking at

office property at the time of

Mr Rees said that the shoot-ings would have meant that

blood and brain tissue but no

scientific evidence linked

Jones always wore his spec-

tacles because of his poor eye-sight but minute examination

by police forensic scientists

had found no traces of blood

on them. Wash basins at his

house had been dismantled

but still no evidence linked

that Jones's alibi. which had

been challenged in the trial,

Ms Tooze, who also attended the hearing, had given evidence in the trial and had been "unfairly

lones to the bodies.

him to the shootings. Fresh evidence would show

was genuine.

killer was covered in

Issues around Bennett's Five Towns of Tunstall, Burslem, Hanley, Stoke and Long-ton — plus Fenton — suggest a rehearsal for a general elec-tion. Pottery and pit redun-dancies are still blamed on the Government, while Labour is credited with some

pragmatic public-private sec-

context of this case ... Cheryl believes he could not have

killed Harry and Megan and

The court heard that Mr Tooze had been shot inside a

farm then dragged to a trough and covered with tarpaulin

sheets. Mrs Tooze had been

dragged to the shed where she
was hidden by a heavy carpet.
Nothing linked Jones to the
scene and the motive for the
crime had not been estab-

lished by the Crown. It could be shown that Jones's

relationship with the Toozes was amicable and he was

treated as one of the family.

There was no evidence that he would have inherited the

money as the couple had no plans to marry. Nor was there evidence that Jones was des-

"Is it likely he would have killed them? Is it likely he would have killed them in the

way they were killed — a cold-blooded execution?"

perate for cash.

asked Mr Rees.

has supported

Convicted man 'lacked gun expertise'

Ted Smith forecasts 10,000 ing enables visitors to enjoy ew jobs — mostly in electronics and light industry — to "feel the heat and smell the new jobs — mostly in elec-tronics and light industry will emerge from £750 million of investment "in the

The city is also aiming for a broader economic future with the China Line minibus ser-vice linking historic potterQueues in the JobCentre

A brick tribute to Stoke's traditional industry. Labour predicts Tory support will crumble on May 2 PHOTOGRAPH DON MET

suggest every job will be wel-come. The nearest position for Northumberland, and the best paid executive position offered a mining engineer £34,000 a

Mentally ill driver left free to kill

blunders left a para-noid schizophrenic free to kill a mother in a random attack, an inquiry found yesterday. Nilesh Gadher, 37, struck Sanita Kaura, 27, at speeds of 45mph while driving in a west Lon-

don-car park.

The independent inquiry says a psychiatrist misunder-stood mental health laws and did not know Gadher, a former pharmacist, could be 'sectioned" over fears for his

health. Instead of compulsory treat ment in hospital, Gadher, who had not complied with medication for 18 months, was allowed in the commu-nity. This was "at best,

naive", says the report. Gadher had been in hospi-tal four times, and was receiving outpatient treatment at West Middlesex hospital Staff failed to act on signs of

a deterioration in his condi-tion after he became a mini-cab driver. Six months earlier his father and brother varned he could kill himself or another person.

But the inquiry team, chaired by John Main QC, conclude that the tragedy was not predictable and stress

that no one person or agency was to blame The report adds, however that it might have been pre-vented had Gadher been read

vented from driving.
The inquiry, ordered by Eaing Hammersmith Hounglow health authority and the borough of Hounslow, highlights confusion over the dental Health Act and says a car can be as dangerous as a gun in the hands of someone

The report blames inademate care plans and a break-lown in communications, but

CATALOGUE of says nothing in the law can blumders left a para-noid schizophrenic against advice and calls for free to kill a mother radical overhaul of guidelines on when the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency should be told of a mental illness.

Gadher was convinced someone was stealing songs he had written when he killed Mrs Kaura, mother of a baby daughter, in September 1994. He was first diagnosed as a schizophrenic in 1984 and was admitted to hospital in De-cember 1993 after a failed sui-

cide attempt.

Doctors from Hounslow and Spelthorne Community Men-tal Health Trust decided to discharge him in March 1994. But he was not given the sup-port he needed and received only monthly visits by his social worker despite his wish for more.

The inquiry team said staff at Heston Work Centre no-ticed changes in Gadher's be-haviour at the beginning of August, but social services and medical authorities failed

and medical aumorities laned to take proper action.

His key social worker, like the psychiatrist, did not realise that Gadher could be given compulsory treatment under the Mental Health Act.

The report notes mental health services were under tweeners were the time. because of a lack of resource The inquiry team makes 17 recommendations. It says someone must be responsible for telling the DVLA of people with a known mental illness

on medication.

Miks Bellamy, health authority chief executive, said around £42 per head of population was being spent on mental health in Hounslow egainst £24 three years ago.

Gadher was sent to a men-tal hospital for an indefinite

Police vote on death penalty

NATIONAL referen dum on the death penal-ty will be sought by members of the Police Federa-tion at their annual confer-ence next month. A vote in favour would lead to pressure on both major parties, who are anxious not to alienate the police in the run-up to a general election.

A motion proposed by the Thames Valley branch would require that the federation put its resources into a media campaign to press any future dum. Interest will be height-ened by the fact that the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, is likely to be pres-ent during the debate. The latest opinion poll on

capital punishment, conducted by Mori for the News of the World, showed that 76 per cent of the public fa-voured the death penalty in some circumstances. A large majority supports capital punishment for the murder of

police officers on duty.

Capital punishment has always had the support of the rank-sud-file of the Police Federation, but in recent years the leadership has seen a debate on the issue as a diversion, since free votes in the House of Commons have all resulted in defeat.

They have concentrated which represents 90,000 offi-neir energies instead on a cers in England and Wales, their energies instead on a cers in England and Wale campaign to ensure that out of a total force of 128,000.

police killers remain inside referendum may appeal in the current climate because it would force both parties to say that they would not be willing to trust the issue to

Other issues to be debated at the conference, which starts in Scarborough on May 14, include a proposal from the Hampshire branch to treat the cultivation of more than 20 cannabis plants the same as an intention to sup-ply drugs. This would lead to heavier sentences for the increasing number of home growers of cannabis, the ma-

volved in dealing. Hampshire also wants the introduction of an offence for the selling of cannabis seeds. A motion calling for a change in the law on "stalking", or persistent harassment, is certain to be passed.

Devon and Cornwall police are seeking a change in the law which would mean that an officer's past disciplinary record could not automatically be brought up in court by the defence. They cite the Rehabilitation of Offenders

Act as a basis for such a change. A warning that Britain's policing is in danger of being controlled by the private security industry will be made by David French, chairman of

Suspended prison term Law Society challenger for gas death landlord

LANDLORD was yes A jury at the inquest into terday given an 18. Miss Murphy's death in after admitting the manwho died of carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty gas

first of its kind in Britain, Thomas Beedie of Cottingham. Hull, admitted killing Tracey Murphy, aged 19. She was found dead in her flat in Pearson Park, Hull, on No-Beedie changed his plea on

Friday after more than two days of legal argument. The Health and Safety Executive had prosecuted Beedie in 1994, when he was found guilty of failing to maintain the gas fire. He and his wife were each fined £1.500.

In July 1994 Beedie was taken to court by Hull city council and was found guilty ing Regulations Act. He to ensure the safety of his ten-received a two year conditions. He failed in that duty tional discharge and was or- and it was such an obvious

September 1994 ruled that she had been unlawfully killed. Sentencing Beedle at Shef-

field crown court yesterday, Mr Justice Clarke said he should have been prosecuted for manslaughter at the same time as the previous two prosecutions, and it was because of these exceptional circumstances that he was receiving a suspended sentence.

The court was told Beedie's "lack of responsibility and ne-glect" led to Miss Murphy's death. Beedie, aged 47, had not ser-viced the gas fires in his 18

bed-sits and flats in Pearson Park since they were in-stalled nine years before. Roger Keen, QC, prosecuting, said: "The lack of responsibility and neglect on his

"Just like any landlord he was under a duty to maintain and repair his premises and risk that it is clear that he pay \$4,000 costs

was indifferent to her Miss Murphy, a waitress

saw her doctor about head-aches during the two months she lived in the flat. A few days before she died another resident said she was "clearly confused, drawn, quite pale and tired". Robert Smith, QC, defending said Beedie accepted that he had been "grossly negli-gent". But he stressed in

other respects Beedle was a good laudlord who had spent substantial amounts of money maintaining the property. He had already been "sub-stantially punished". Mr Justice Clarke said: "You are guilty of gross neglect, though I accept the evi-

dence that in some respects you have been a good The judge warned: "Landlords must appreciate that if their gross negligence causes the death of a tenant . . . it will

ordinarily merit an immedi-ate custodial sentence "

Clare Dyor Logal Correspondent

HE bitter factional battle at the Law Society gained momentum yes-terday when Eileen Pembridge, the most vocal oppo-nent of the president Martin Mears, revealed that she was considering running against him again this year. Ms Pembridge, once de-

scribed by Mr Mears as "the most dangerous feminist in England", said she was also considering suggestions faxed to her office yeslerday that she should report him to the Solicitors Complaints Bureau for bringing the profession into disrepute.

Mr Mears angered a women lawyers' conference at the weekend when he denied that women suffered prejudice in the legal profession and sug-gested that zealots had made the victim discrimination. He attacked "discrimina-

tion zealors who thrive on Eileen Pembridge:

most

ing and use minorities as raw material for their whinge factories."

| term. But his strong support among grass roots solicitors has deterred adversaries on

The maverick president, who defeated Ms Pembridge and the society's official candidate, Henry Hodge, last June in the first contested election in 40 years, is seek-ing an unprecedented second

The appeal continues today. Cheryl Tooze and Jonathan Jones before his murder arrest

the society's 75-member council from entering the ring.

Ms Pembridge acrused Mr
Mears of creating "a climate
of fear and distrust" and in February called for someone to stand against him. She was then pregnant at the age of 52 and decided not to stand, but she lost the baby. She said: "I'm being urged to consider running for president against the forces of darkness. It's vitally important that some-body should stand against him." Mr Mears said: "I beat her easily last time and I'll beat her this time." He sent a memorandum to council members yesterday complaining that his speech had been misrepresented in a Sunday newspaper. The

memo says that he removed criticism of the Bar's equality code from his speech to pre-serve good relations with the Bar. He found it "disagreeable" to have the Bar chairman. David Penry-Davey QC,

fights 'forces of darkness'

field of fostering and child care.

Council officials, whose heat stretches from the Durham border almost to the River Humber, are concerned about the effects of passive smoking. Peter Putwain, Liberal Democrat chairman of the social services sub-committee, said: "We are a responsible council and we must consider this as part of our approach on smoking. There will be plenty of discussion, but people are

in public places."
The hung council, on which Liberal Democrats have the largest share of the seats, said the proposal was based on "common sense guidelines"

Council may reject as foster parents couples who smoke

Martin Walmwright

BRITAIN'S largest local au-thority may extend penal-ties against smokers into the

Councillors in North Yorkshire will on Thursday debate a proposal that foster parents who smoke should be rejected when non-smoking families, of otherwise equal merit, are available

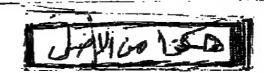
more and more aware of the harm caused by smoking, which is increasingly banned

by smoking to the exclusion of other considerations. Mr Putwain said many things had to be taken into account, such as the room a family had available. "The

proposal is that smoking should be one of them." The plan is likely to face tough opposition within the council, which has a big Tory group and balancing minorities of independent and Labour councillors. The Lib Dems are also likely to be divided over how much stress should be placed on smoking when social services staff as-sess would-be fosterers and other carers. Beth Graham, a Lib Dem

who chaired the council last year, said: "As a libertarian, I think that this is going a bit too far. There are so many health risks nowadays that it is perhaps invidious to single out smoking."

The proposal was welcomed by Action on Smoking and Health, the campaign which has concentrated its fire in recent years on passive smoking. But if it is approved by the sub-committee on Thursday, it still faces the main social services committee and



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Greenpeace calls for PVC ban

THE environmental pressure group Greenpeace today calls for the phasing out of the waterproof plastic material PVC because of fears that it releases chemicals into the environment which disrupt the workings of normal hormones in the body. Such chemicals have been linked to reproductive problems in fish and apparent declines in sperm counts in humans. Greenpeace's report today, which is drawn from a book, Our Stoken France, by US scientist Theo Colborn, also claims such chemicals can damage foetuses.

Finire, by US scientist Theo Colborn, also claims such chemicals can damage foctuses.

Sue Cooper, from Greenpeace, said: "There is more than enough evidence of harm caused by hormone disrupting chemicals to take insmediate action. PVC is one of the main sources of hormone disrupters and a material we can easily live without." PVC is used in furniture, car trims and interiors, and for window frames, sewage and water pipes. A spokesman for one manufacturer, the European Vinyls Corporation, which employs more than 4,000 people in in South Glamorgan and Lancashire, rejected the Greenpeace allegations. A Department of the Environment spokeswoman said research on hormone disruption had produced no evidence "so far" that PVC was involved. — Paul Brown.

Footballer jailed for assault

An amateur footballer who punched a referee unconscious after he had been sent off was yesterday jailed for 28 days. Steve Payne, aged 26, attacked John McGuire, who had to be treated in bospital, after being given the red card for abuse during a Sunday match in Dulwich Park, south-east London. Mary Waldron, prosecuting told Cambea well magistrates that Payne, who had a recent conviction for wounding, had since been fined £200 by the London Football Association and banned from playing for five years. Mike Reid, defending, said feelings had been running high and Payne, from Peckham, south-east London, had felt the referee "incompetent." Payne was sentenced after admitting actual bodily harm at an earlier hearing. bodily harm at an earlier hearing.

Comedians' £300,000 debts

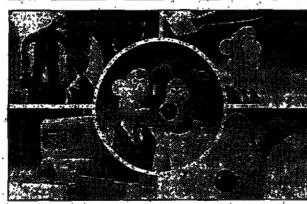
COMEDIANS Cannon and Ball and their wives were yesterday disqualified from being company directors for three years after the High Court in Manchester heard that the entertainers ran up debts of more than £300,000 at the height of their careers because companies formed to charge for the comics' services failed to meet PAYE and National Insurance payments. The disqualification orders were made against the comedians — real names Thomas Derbyshire and Robert Harper — and their wives Hazel and Yvonne in proceedings brought by the Insolvency Agency.

Devon faces hose curbs

PEOPLE in Devon face an extension of hosepipe bans, South West

Water warned yesterday.

The Roadford reservoir near Launceston is only 39 per cent full, and hosepipe bans already in force in parts of north Devon may and hosepipe bans already in force in parts of north Devon may have to be widened. The company is seeking to draw more water from the rivers Tamar and Tavy. Supplies from the river Dart, suspended last summer after a stomach bug outbreak, may also be reintroduced. — Geoffrey Gibbs



Wallace and Gromit abroad

WALLACE and Gromit, the enimated heroes of Nick Park's triple Oscar triumph (above), have secured deals for the BBC with 28 overseas proadcasters, the corporation amnounced

yesterday. BBC Worldwide Television said the third film in the trilogy, A Close Shave, which attracted 10.5 million viewers for its first TV showing in Britain, had been sold to broadcasters in Germany, Italy and the US.

Germany, many and the US.

It has also been licensed to 20 airlines, including Quantas,
KLM and Virgin. — Andrew Culf

'Dangerous man' on the run

POLICE warned the public last night not to approach a "danger ous" remand prisoner who escaped from a mental hospital. Ian Deans, 27, from Durham, who fied Middlewood Hospital, Sheffield, on Sunday, was on remand from Newcastle and Durham crown court. Policesaid he is "desperate to stay out of prison".

Three sisters end house feud

THREE daughters yesterday agreed to end their legal battle to evict their mother from the family home, willed to them by their evict meir momer from the tammy notics, which to them by their grandfather. Widow Megan Swanston, 71, who had been given notice to quit her home of 13 years, will keep her house in Oldham Greater Manchester, under the terms of asettlement, a court heard. The agreement, ending a two year wrangle between Mrs Swanston and daughters, Elaine Nixon, Valerie Hunter and Lorraine Talliot, came before the parties appeared at Salford. county court, Manchester.

Triple killer found dead in cell

A CONVICTED triple killer was found dead yesterday in his cell. Andrew Gentle, 58, from Glasgow, had been serving two life sentences for murder and eight years for attempted murder at Greenock prison, Strathchyde. In 1982, Gentle was found gullty of stabiling a woman to death and then strangling his accomplice, lan Wadell, while they were on the run after the murder of Josephine Chipperfield. Gentle had previously been jailed in 1969 for eight years for culpable homicide, and was released in 1975. A fatal accident inquiry will be held.

Coma woman allowed to die

HIGH Court judge Sir Stephen Brown yesterday gave an unnamed health authority the right to allow a woman in a come for the past eight years to die with dignity. The 33-year-old woman has been in a persistent vegetative state since contracting a mystery viral illness. Sir Stephen was told by Robert Francis, QC for the health authority, that the woman, who is fed by tubes, has reflex movements and that she is to all intents and purposes brain

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Jester fights on to raise a laugh at summer festival in aid of peace in Sarajevo



U fessional jester having a seriously unfunny week,

writes Maer Kennedy. Today be will learn from Winchester council whether he still has a licence to fill this huge natural amphitheatre (left) with 50,000 music and aris enthusiasis and a live sat-ellite link to Sarajevo in two

months' time. Negotiations continued yes-terday to secure a headline act for the proposed three day event, a festival of music, cir-cus and theatre over the last weekend in June.

Mr Kay, who describes him-self as the last full-time licensed jester in England, has never been involved in anything on this scale before. At home in Winchester he

has been running a Hat fair, the oldest English street theatre festival for over 20 years. When he met the original organisers of the Isle of Wight festival, Ray and Bill Foulk, the germ of a bigger idea was born.

They secured a five year agreement to use a 350 acre site at Chilcomb Down just outside Winchester. It seem made for a big outdoor festishape was exploited by the Romans, and by Eisenb addressing the massed allied forces before D-Day.

The festival should be the British premiere before an American tour of a song and dance show called Sarajevo whose best friend was shot lead while they crossed the tarmac at Sarajevo airport. Festival profits are to help the Hampshire area

Doctors snub hospital jobs

Trusts cannot fill gap left by consultants quitting early

OUR out of five hos pitals are having dif-ficulties in recruiting consultants and junior doctors with some adverts attracting no reses or only poor quality Health Authorities and Trusts says today. Particular problems exist in accident and emergency, psychiatry, anaesthetics, paediatrics and

orthopsedics.
The British Medical Association said the report rein-forced its findings that many consultants were seeking early retirement and younger loctors looking for jobs abroad or outside of

The report says that 79 per cent of the 174 trusts which responded to its survey were having difficulties finding consultants. "The problems ranged from repeated adver-tisements to a nil response or

sometimes only one." failure of national planning, a high fail-out rate among doc-tors training for consultant culties recruiting junior doctors training for consultant | culties recruiting junior doc | taken, these alone will not | to ensure a perfect match | posts, and inflexibility in | tors because of high drop-out | solve the overall problems — | tween supply and demand."



Doctors at large . . wards face a dearth of consultants

consultants as a full-time areer, rather than progressing to consultant status.

Many health authorities

relied on overseas doctors to fill unpopular specialities, but changes to immigration laws have made work permits harder to obtain. It is European doctors rather than those from Commonwealth countries who are appointed.

granting work permits to overseas doctors. It also says there should be an expansion of "sub-consultant" posts. where experienced juniors do exacerbated because a six much of the routine work of month stint in A and E has

been dropped as a require-ment to pass the Royal Col-lege of Surgeons exams. NAHAT says some trusts are concerned that boosting pay deals in unpopular speci-alities will only lead to a "jacking up" of all salaries. Derek Day, NAHAT's deputy director, said national ini-

tiatives were needed rather than piecemeal local actions.
"Whilst some local and national actions are being been the case in the past."

James Johnson, chairman
of the BMA's consultants

committee, said: "This report confirms what we have been saying for sometime. People are so brassed off they are leaving the service."

Mr Johnson said govern ment claims that consultant numbers were being ex-panded at the rate of 10 per cent a year were false, with the real figure being around 3

Increasing the number of sub-consultant posts would be fering a cheap service of poor quality. It would be a second rate service giving second

rate care to patients.
"We are reaching a man power crisis. There are at least 16 specialities where there are shortages. We are talking about some of the big-gest such as paediatrics and anaesthetics."

A spokeswoman for the Department of Health said numerous initiatives had been launched to improve the recruitment and retention of doctors, including research into why juniors dropped out of training and the creation of a Specialist Workforce Advi-

sory Group.
"There has been a steady increase in the number of consultants in recent years, with a 25 per cent increase be-

tween 1984 and 1994. "Given the variety of career paths it will never be possible to ensure a perfect match be-

especially if they are dealt with in isolation as has often East Anglia looks to Sri Lanka, South Africa, Australia, Italy, Spain, Singapore and India

Alan Watkins

AHOSPITAL in East Anglia faced the possi-bility of cancelling opera-tions before it turned overseas to recruit almost 20 per cent of its consultants. The James Paget hospital

Pat Mullen, medical staff-

ing manager, said: "There is no doubt that without international recruitment we would have been in a criti-"The lifting of restric-

tions on consultancy posts and the establishment of so many trusts created many insufficient numbers to meet that demand.

"Hospitals not in the main geographical areas found themselves in great difficulties and we took the

difficulties and we took the decision to try and recruit

overseas".

The hospital, serving a basic population of 220,000, which doubles during the summer because of holidaynakers at Great Yarmouth

are occupied by Dutchmen. In all cases, said Mrs Mullen, appointments were made to specific standards and all staff had to meet the same criteria of medical training and understanding

as British-born doctors. The trust has not offered incentive packages, alat Gorleston, Norfolk, per-suaded 10 consultants to of return air fares and acmove to Britain after fail-ing to attract UE short-listed. On appoint-

cation packages.

Among consultants currently employed at the hospital are two anaesthetists from South Africa and one from Sri Lanka, radiology and orthopaedic specialists from Australia and Italy, a onsultant radiologist from Spain, a gastroenterology

ideal solution. Many of the consultants have brought to our medicine the specific skills and teaching practices of another country and we believe that all our staff have benefited." The hospital plans to ex-

also employes 15 German tend recruitment to other doctors in junior posts and all eight of the current vocational training vacancies Zealand and Hong Kong.

Nurses demand special treatment as NHS elite

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

URSES yesterday staked a claim to special treatment from the present and future governments as they gave a health minister a hostile reception at the Royal College of Nursing's annual congress.

John Bowis, junior health minister, was jeared and heckled as he sought to de-fend the Government's record

on the NHS and on nurses wy in particular. RCN leaders told the congress in Bournemouth that they were seeking to set qual-ified nurses apart from the

mands for an incoming gov-Betty Kershaw, college

president, said: "Nurses can not be treated like other health care workers because we aren't like other health care workers."

The RCN's effort to portray its 300,000 qualified member ship as an elite stems from last year's NHS pay dispute. The college was outman-ouvred by Unison, the biggest health union, which forced through a deal making all health workers except doctors subject to the same pay

rest of the health workforce. | unions have accepted the | They published a list of 26 de- | principle of local pay determi-

net arrangement.

Ms Kershaw said nurses
were bound by the Unison-

Under the machanism, the

nation in return for a safety

brokered deal this year, but the RCN had not accepted local pay. "This is the Royal College of Nursing. It isn't

College of Nursing. It isn't and never will be a royal college of health workers."

With congress holding an emergency debate today on whether the nurses' pay review body has any role left, college leaders are looking at new ideas for a pay machin-ety for qualified nurses alone. The RCN wants nurses to have the kind of treatment ac-

Ms Kershaw said: "We de-liver 80 per cent of patient care. Our views matter." In response to the college's separatist stance, Bob Abberley, Unison's head of health, said: "This is a time for unity, not floating and the said: "This is a time for unity, not throwing stones."

Mr Bowis told reporters: "We don't want to see any one part of the team being wholly away from any other part. The NHS succeeds when all the elements — doctors, nurses, bealth care assistants. therapists and managers work together for the benefit

Harriet Harman, shadow health secretary, and Simon Hughes, Liberal Democrat

received by congress. Mr | dards for entitlement to long-Bowis said he had been to | term nursing care. mough union conferences to know to expect delegates to known.

The 26 demands, set out in a

"national health manifesto", include the re-establishment of national pay determination for registered nurses, the end

publication of national stan- | health service

 One in 10 patients catches an infection while in hospital. figures released yesterday show, prompting nurses to urge hospitals to disclose their infection rates as an in-

centive for improvement.
The RCN claims that hospital infections cost the NHS milof short-term contracts for lions of pounds a year. Nurses nurses and an annual review at the congress said local moniof financial support for nursing was not enough; cases of imection should be notified to rolley waits in casualty depression of the control o

trolley waits in casualty de-partments, a legal right of treatment on a ward with pa-tients of the same sex and and growing pressure on the

Lilley may close benefits advice line Race reports must be fair,

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

HE Government is considering closing a free telephone advice service used by more than three milkion people, mainly pensioners, a leaked internal Department of Social Security memo

impartial and expert advice about benefit entitlement. claimant groups as one of the most effective sources of official advice, especially for

The national Freeline ser-

have been forbidden to reveal the existence of the docu-ment, but a copy has been passed to the shadow social security secretary, Chris Smith, who described it as "a classic own goal. It is incredible that the Government is considering axing a real lifevice, operated from 11 DSS line for millions of poor, el-centres, is intended to give derly and vulnerable people".

derly and vulnerable people".

The paper, marked restricted, shows that the Government is considering transferring staff currently working on the Freeline line into the normal henefit ser-vice. The DSS memo says: those who find it physically vice. The DSS memo says: was to get claimants to pro- cause staff would have difficult to travel to a benefit. Presuming Freeline was to vide the correct information, redeployed elsewhere.

office. It also offers advice in | close please profile how staff | first time — the prime goal of Welsh, Punjabl. Urdu and | could be absorbed over the 96- | Freeline. Aimese. 97 financial year into your Senior Benefit Agency staff. District-Business Unit against anticipated vacancies. As staff leave, so the Freeline budget would be withdrawn."

Transfer of the advice service to the DSS's 156 districts would involve more than 100 extra phone calls per working day to already hard-pressed local offices. Mr Smith's office pointed

out yesterday that Peter Lil-ley, the Social Security Secre-tary, told benefit managers in February that one of the best ways to cut the 250 billion social security budget and reduce adminstrative time was to get claimants to pro-

Mr Smith intends to raise the future of the service with Mr Lilley in the Comomns

Mr Lilley may reply that existence of the memo does not mean the service will definitely close. However, Mr Smith said it was incredible that the Government was even considering shutting the service, since it had kept open a motorway cones hot line for

today.

tually no one was making use of it. Staff unions claim the closure of the service would save less than £250.000, largely because staff would have to be

three years, even though vir-

Wakeham tells newspapers annual Race in the Media Andrew Culf

Media Correspondent ORD Wakeham, chairman

Commission, yesterday nor will L" warned newspapers that of He admir fensive treatment of racial minorities would not be tolerated.

He said the commission had raised journalistic standards during its five year existence. "What simply raised eye-brows in the 1980s would today bring down a ton of bricks on any editor who allowed his or her newspaper to flout the central tenets of

our code of practice." He told the Commission for Racial Equality's fourth | minority writers today."

awards at the Savoy, London: "Readers today simply won't won't tolerate newspapers that treat racial minorities in of the Press Complaints an offensive manner — and

He admitted bad practice still existed and some readers did not believe it was worth

making a complaint. • The Guardian's Maya Jaggi unanimously won the national newspaper category in the Race in the Media awards for the quality and insight of her arts features on

The judges said: "This jour nalist's work uncovers the hopes and aspirations of some of the most influential ehtnic

ethnic minority writers

we than 10t

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Road

algaria to close red

Defiant Berlusconi claims votes

where it took 19 of the 50 seats.

For the moment, however,

it looks far more likely that

the Olive Tree and its leader.

Romano Prodi, will count on

help from Communist Re-

foundation to give it a majority in the lower house. But

that could be a strained

Communist Refoundation, under the leadership of Fausto

line on several issues that could bring it into conflict with Olive Tree moderates.

is opposed to any further reduction in Italy's bloated

pensions system. It is in favour of reintroduc

John Hooper in Rome

ILVIO Berlusconi claimed last night that his losing rightwing alliance had won more votes, but fewer seats, in the battle for Italian parliament in Sunday's general election.

Speaking at a press conference at his home outside Milan, the media tycoon said his Freedom Alliance took 50,000 more votes in polling for the chamber of deputies. Final results were still com-ing in last night, but his claim was backed by Rome Univer-sity's electoral observatory.

The director, Gianni Statera, said its figures showed the right had taken 44 per cent, compared with 43.3 per

Left and centre

can enjoy an outright majority in the Lower House.

Forging alliances

The Olive Tree alliance had a clear edge in seats and votes in the senate. With at least 157 seats, and the expected sup-port of several life senators, it will not need the votes of the Communists in the upper

One of the most significant consequences of the ballot was that the federalist Northern League lost its grip on the balance of power - at least for the moment

After driving a punishing bargain with Mr Berlusconi before the last election two from the 1994 poll with 117 seats in the chamber of depu-

Northern League

The Northern League, which had

59

Chamber of Deputies

630 seats

Tree aillance and the ortho- Berlusconi after seven months ground in the north-east dox Marxists of Communist of fractious partnership. of fractious partnership.

But Mr Bossi's decision to abandon Mr Berlusconi prompted the defection of al-most a third of his own MPs. and yesterday's results reduced the League's tally in the lower house to 59. This, however, was a far better result than predicted.

It had been thought that the League, which refused to join would be crushed between them - a fate common to third parties in an electoral system dominated by first-

past-the-post rules. Under the Italian system, a quarter of the seats in parlia-ment are filled by propor-tional representation, but the ties, the largest number of any party. It was this which enabled its maverick leader, Umberto Bossi, to bring down Mr well in the key Veneto battle-

Freedom Alliance

Led by media magnate and forme

prime minister Silvio Berlusconi, i Ivio main parties are Berlusconi's

own Forza Italia and the far-right

ing the defunct system of in-dex-linked salary increases which is widely blamed for It-aly's once high inflation rate. But the seeds of contro-versy were also being sown on the right. The leader of one of two small Christian

lusconi's alliance blamed the former neo-fascist leader, Gianfranco Fini, for forcing the election. The Christian Democrats

were immediately wooed by the outgoing prime minister, Lamberto Dini, who threw in his lot with the centre-left. Mr was also expected to come in for criticism from his own party for losing votes to a new ultra-right group led by the vetern neo-fascist Pino

 Leftwing and social demo-cratic parties across Europe welcomed the result. This first victory for the left in the history of the Italian Republic is of European significance," said Peter Schieder, foreign affairs spokesman for Austria's Social Democrats.

Left in the driving seat



ROMANO PRODI . . . In an interview published shortly before Sunday's poll, the economics professor who is poised to head Italy's next government was asked what he would most like to change about himself. He said he would prefer to be nastier, to silence detractors who have claimed his amiable disposition ill-fits him for the rough-and-tumble of Italy's politics.

Aged 56, he is one of his country's leading economists and

a former chairman of the state holding company, IRI. Before entering politics last year, he lived and worked in Bologna, where he ran an economic forecasting consultancy and taught at the university.

A devout Catholic, one of his roles in the election was to pull in Italy's moderate vote. He could also boast a past as one of the country's few successful privatisers, having sold off several IRI subsidiaries during his stints as chairman from 1982 to 1989 and again from 1993 to 1994. His political opponents claimed he had fired more people than anyone else

standing in the election. Mr Prodi was born near Reggio Emilia in the prosperous north-central region of Emilio Romagna. He graduated in economics from Milan's Catholic University and later studied at the London School of Economics. He married a childhood friend, Flavia Franzoni, with whom he has two sons, aged 21 and 24. In 1974 he spent a year as a visiting professor at Harvard.

returning to Italy to become chairman of the Il Mulino publishing house.

publishing mouse.
His only previous experience of government was as industry minister in a short-lived government of Giulio Andreotti. He held the portfolio for just five months between 1978 and 1979.



MASSIMO D'ALEMA...He beat Mr Veltroni to the PDS leadership in 1994 Mr D'Alema refused to put

himself up against Silvio Berlusconi — as Mr Occhetto did with catastrophic results — choosing instead to field a political novice with a jovial persona. Not even his friends would call him affable. He is better known for his intelligence

and sardonic wit.



He is the joker in the newly allowed anywhere near the cabinet, he will still play a key role in shaping its policies because as the leader of Communist Refoundation he has the power to bring it down. After the foundation of the PDS, be joined the breakaway Communist Refoundation in 1993 and was elected its secretary the



WALTER VELTRONI . . . It was no coincidence that when Professor Prodi claimed victory on Sunday night, the man standing at his shoulder was Mr Veltroni. The 40-year old editor of the formerly Communist daily. L'Unita has been the link man between the Prodi camp and the PDS since the start of the professor's campaign for the premiership, and is likely to become deputy

Jet-propelled gurus vow to lift spirits of weary Sarajevans With memoirs, Mitterrand

OSNLA is beginning to experience one of the iron rules of 20th century conflict: after the bullets the bombs come the

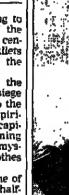
lifting of the Sarajevo siege have opened the doors to the good, the bad and the spiritually unorthodox. The capital in particular is becoming tics in loose-fitting clothes

looking for converts.

George McMillian is one of the new arrivals. He is a half-Commanche native American from California who - after long phases as a Sikh and a Buddhist — now describes himself as "a sort of Tantric

ing past a civil war monu-ment outside Nashville, Tenis to set up a "sound temple"

According to a letter he has sent to Sarajevo's Muslim. Or thodox and Catholic leaders the temple would allow all faiths to "bring together their create a still point of hope and love in a world traumatised and in despair".



Mr McMillian felt com-

pelled to travel to Sarajevo after experiencing a vision of Bosnia's suffering while drivnessee, last year. His mission where Bosnians of different faiths can come to pray, chant and hum.

The soft-spoken 46-year-old

with a pig-fail and a guitar may come from the benign more insidious cults are on



Holding the line . . . Nordic I-For soldiers guard the crowded Spreca bridge near the northern Bosnian town of Doboj. Muslim and Croat refugee flocked to the bridge hoping to revisit their old homes, but were blocked by Serbs. The Nato troops fired into the air to break up scuffles. UN workers and Nato officers accused all factions of encouraging clashes by leading refugees to towns from which they had been expelled

"We've got bookings from all kinds of people. A lot of people from the West Coast, including some of the drug gurus, a lot of New Age stuff with ecstasy," he said. Among those booking meet-

ing halls are colonic irrigators from Sweden and Eng- movement - attracted nearly

ing to an employee at a com- | Bosnian conflict was fuelled | pany hiering out public by bid diet and constipation address equipment. by bid diet and constipation address equipment. with the spirits of their dead. Shell-shocked Sarajevo is potentially fertile ground for the gurus. Over the weekend a "Festival of India" - which

But the influx of spiritual | alternatives is also creating friction in a country where religious identity has been etched into popular con-sciousness by four years of ethnic conflict. About 50 newly arrived Hare Krishna devotees were attacked on Friday when their singing. turned out to be a recruiting drive for the Hare Krishna cymbal-clashing procession collided with Muslims emerging from a Sarajevo mosque.

bers were injured, including two Britons, Colin Campbell and Toren Wilson, who were taken to hospital with knife wounds. The British consul-ate in Sarajevo said yesterday that Mr Wilson had already been discharged and was on his way back to Britain, while Mr Campbell was in a stable

focus of the conflict, Sarajevo has long been a magnet for sects and cults, but until the December peace accord the siege of the city acted as a filter, blocking the more bizarre war tourists.

Similarly, an aid convoy do-nated and accompanied by

got no further than the (pre-sumably mystified) Serb forces ringing the capital. Now, in the post-war confu-sion, it is easier for holders of west European or US passports to enter Bosnia than

any other country in the

Many of the young Saraje-vans who packed the Festival of India said the war had left them distillusioned with the established religions — Islam, and Catholicism - whose leaders they accused of helping deepen Bosnia's ethnic

Aima Duran, a 19-year-old from a Muslim family who now wears a Hare Krishna sari, said her generation "see how religion has been manip-ulated by the state, the army and the police"

Sarajevan youth may be embracing Hare Krishna, but the city has shown no signs of being ready for a "sound temple". Mr McMillian is still waiting two weeks on, for a reply to his letter offering Bosnia's religious leaders a focus for their unique posi-

Meanwhile, he has decided to begin a fast to seek guid-

ance on what to do next.
"If the powers that be won" that Mr Wilson had already been discharged and was on his way back to Britain, while Mr Campbell was in a stable condition.

As the symbol and media

An attempt by a gang of leather-jacketed bikers to leather-jacketed bikers leather-jacketed bikers leather-jacketed bikers leather-jacketed bikers leather-jacketed bike

Mitterrand down Sarajevo's notorious Sniper Alley, performing Of the story

A VOICE from the grave of François Mitterrand today with the publication of the late president's Mémoires Interrompus and a second book rebutting suggestions that he mishandled French foreign policy after Ger-man reunification.

as president nearly a year ago, worked almost until the day of his death in January on the memoirs, based on interviews with a journalist, Georges-Marc Benamou. The work concentrates on the most controversial episodes in his career, including his time as a civil servant with the collaborationist government during the second world war.

The book is expected to dethrone the current French bestseller, the memoirs of Mitterrand's widow, Danielle. Both contribute to a growing industry in-tended to establish an offi-cial version of his life in the face of a flood of critical literature.

A foundation is being set up by the Mitterrand fam-ily, including his illegitimate daughter, Mazarine, to protect against further revelations and to pursue any legal action.

The most emphatic rebuttals in Mémoires Interrom-pus concern the war years when Mitterrand, a lawyer.
was decorated for his loy-alty to the Vichy leader,
Philippe Pétain. Respond-ing to accusations that he associated with anti-Semitic collaborators, the late itic collaborators, the late president writes that he was unaware of anti-Jew-ish laws when he arrived from a German PoW camp in March 1942. On discovering the extent of persecution, he "morally and physically broke with the mediocre system that was mediocre system that was to reveal itself as

The second book, De l'Allemagne, de la France, (Concerning Germany and France), reflects Mitterrand's resentment at allegations that he mishandled the cold war aftermath and failed to construct appro-priate foreign policy.

Taken together, the books most striking effect comes from the cover photographs. Mitterrand is pictured as a handsome young man on Mémoires Interrompus and as a weathered veteran on the foreign policy essay.

Le Monde's cartoonist Plantu goes further, show-ing six Mitterrands of vari-ous ages breaking into a conversation between President Jacques Chirac and Marianne to announce: "Ah, come to think of it. I forgot to tell you something

Greece investigates baby-selling scandal

Helena Smith in Athens

REECE has launched an official inquiry into illegal adoptions, amid reports that thousands of toddlers were sold to families at home and abroad in the 30 years after the second world

The Socialist government ordered the investigation under mounting pressure from victims of the alleged baby-selling scheme. Since the scandal erupted last year. many Greeks, especially in the United States, have beaun to seek their real identities. Many have discovered their roots via the Internet.

'We have all the evidence in the world to prove that this illicit practice took place," said Marianna Fatthfull, who helped set up the Association for the Search for Children Adopted Without the Consent of their Natural Parents.

We want the government to recognise this in writing and to finally amend Greece's antiquated adoption laws | headway could be made only | declinant fertility rate

parted from their families after being falsely declared dead a few days after they were born. Most had been handed over to institutions on a temporary basis by un-

Doctors, priests, nurses and lawyers are all believed to have played an active part in Evangelos Venizelos, the

justice minister, said orphanage files would be opened up: "There will be no more se crecy surrounding this issue." the municipal orphanage in the western city of Patras have revealed that up to 5,000 children were illegally adopted between the 1930s

Ms Faithfull, who recently traced her own family, said most of the toddlers ended up being bought for a "handsome fee" by Americans.

Campaigners said real

Otherwise, we will take our til Greece's antiquated adoptose to the European Court of Human Rights."

The victims say they were tild Greece's antiquated adoption laws were overhauled. Although public institutions no longer face allegations of impropriety, there is a wide-spread belief that adoption scams are still rife at private hospitals and in church-run refuges.

Last week a priest running a centre for single mothers in northern Greece was prosecuted for allegedly forcing a young woman to sell her baby to a rich family.

"Private adoptions have to be banned because they have ment, has been arrested and clearly encouraged baby-selling rackets," Ms Faithfull crets, his mother said said, "A lot of east Europeans and young Greek mothers have been found selling their babies for around 20 million drachmas (£55,000) at private hospitals in Athens."

Officials at the health mining ists of people wishing to adopt. Greece's birthrate has fallen dramatically over the past decade. Expecte blands istry have blamed the prac-tice on unusually long wait-Mitsubishi shut down its aspast decade. Experts blame atmospheric pollution for the sembly line in Illinois yester-

News in brief

Greece 'shot at Turkish boat' A Greek coastguard vessel opened fire on a Turkish fish-ing boat off Turkey's south-

ern coast early yesterday. slightly wounding one fisherman, Turkish officials said. The Turkish foreign ministry said it would protest to Athens. Turkey and Greece almost came to blows in January over a group of uninhabited islets in the Aegean

Dissident arrested Li Hal, a Chinese dissident in the 1989 democracy move-

yesterday. - Reuter.

Anti-US bombs Two explosive devices were thrown at the American Centre in Lahore, the capital of

the Chicago office of the Equal Employment Opportu-nity Commission, which has alleged widespread sexual harassment at the Mitsubishi Dutch air crash

One of the two occupants of a small private plane was killed into the Fokker aircraft plant in the Dutch town of Hoogeveen yesterday, the regional fire department said. - AP.

Kurd rebels killed Turkish security forces killed

21 Kurdish rebels on Sunday in clashes in southeast Turkey, security sources said yes-terday. The regional governor's office in Diyarbakir said | rity service and announced to 46 members of the Kurdistan Workers' Party had been killed in four days of fighting in Bingol province. — Reuter.

Rabies in Poland

A rabies epidemic caused largely by an overpopulation | before the fall of communism animals in Poland, public television reported. It said there were 700 hot spots, with owski meant Soviet and Rusthe southern province of sian intelligence. Radom worst affected and new cases reported every tablished to lay charges mat who later providay. — Reuter. against anyone in this case." day and sent 60 businads of day - Reuter.

Ex-PM's spy case dropped

Reuter in Warsaw he Polish prosecutor looking into allegations

that a former prime minister, Jozef Oleksy, spied for Moscow said yesterday he would not proceed as the evidence was inadequate.
"Today I decided to drop
this case." the military prosecutor. Slawomir Gorzkiewicz

Mr Oleksy has consistently denied the allegations, lev-elled by Poland's UOP secuinterior minister, Andrze Milczanowski, in December. Mr Milczanowski said the

UOP had evidence that Mr Oleksy knowingly informed for foreign intelligence from in 1989 until early 1995, when he was speaker of parliament.

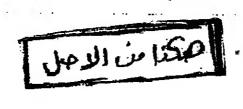
"There were no grounds es-

said the prosecutor, adding that the UOP's evidence was at best circumstantial and contained errors.

Mr Oleksy, once a senior communist, resigned as prime minister on January 24 when prosecutors launched a three-month investigation. The furore shook the ruling coalition of Mr Oleksy's excommunist Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) and a peasant party, which only after tough negotiations formed a reshuffled cabinet under the SLD's Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz.

The affair broke just before the former president Lech union leader, handed over to his ex-communist foe Alek-sander Kwasniewski, who had narrowly beaten him in November elections. Mr Oleksy called the allega-

tions a "filthy provocation" by pro-Walesa UOP officers, and admitted only to an innocent acquaintance with a Warsaw-based Moscow diplomat who later proved to be an



News in brief

in Afghan floods

MORE than 100 people have been killed in heavy flooding in Afghanistan, relief workers said yesterday. At least seven provinces, covering more than a quarter of the country, have been affected by the floods brought on by melting snow and heavy rains, a worker from an international relief agency said.

In northern Badakhshan, the villages of Joma Bazar and Islim were virtually washed away on Friday when a giant wall of water came crashing down on the area, the relief worker said. — Renter, Kabul.

Report calls for fish farms

VAST fish and shellfish farms are needed to satisfy world demand because of the over-exploitation and decline of natural fish populations, says an international Food Policy Research Institute

report published foday.
The Washington-based group says aquiculture, genetically engineered fish species, and carefully managed natural stocks are the pattern for the fixture. Meryl Williams, the report's author, says fish are a critical food supply for a billion of the world's poor and provide 150 million

By 2045, the report estimates, the majority of the world's fish will come from fish farms. — Paul Brown:

Crime costs US billions

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Decide acceptable

CRIME is costing the United States \$450 billion (£300 billion) a year, says a report commissioned by the justice department in an attempt to calculate the intangible cost to victims of child abuse and domestic violence as well as murder, rape and robbery.

It tries to work out the cost of pain, suffering and reduction in the quality of life. The price of a rape, for example, is put at \$5,100 time the child abuse of the state of the child on the for out-of-pocket expenses, plus \$82,000 for the effect on the victim's life. The calculations, based largely on jury awards, price the "lost quality of life" for a murder victim and his family at \$1.9 million — Educard Helmore, New York

Four confess to Riyadh blast

FOUR Saudis confessed on state television yesterday to last year car bombing of a US-run military training centre in Riyadh and said they had been planning further attacks.

In confessions broadcast shortly after the interior minister, Prince Nayef, announced their arrest, they said they were influenced by Islamic groups outside the kingdom, and the dis-Mohammad al-Masari

The four gave almost identical accounts of their role in the November 13 bombing at the Saudi National Guard training centre, which killed five Americans and two Indians and wounded about 60. — Reuter, Dubci.

Fires rage across Mongolia

FOREST fires have raged out of control in north-eastern Mongolia for a third week, leaving burnt-out nomadic tent villages and charred cattle carcasses.

"The situation is very serious," General Damdinsuren, deputy chief of the Mongolian state emergency commission, said yesterday, adding that the fire damage was "Imge".

Smoke was hampering efforts to extinguish the blazes. "We

carmot even see where and how large the fires are from the sirplanes because every place is thick with smoke, "Gen Damidin suren said. — Reuter, Ulan Botor.

Jaffna cut off by pincer

SRI LANKAN forces thrusting deep into Tamil Tiggs rebel terri-tory in a pincer movement have virtually cat off the northern Jaffna peninsula from the mainland, trapping guerrilles and

esidents, an army officer said yesterday. "From where we are we can bring down artillary fire and officer in charge of counter-insurgency operations said. "The only escape for the Tigers is by sea." — Reuter, Colombo.

Landmine talks reopen



CAMPAIGNERS built a mountain of almost 14,000 boots and shoes outside the United Nations Geneva headquarters yesterday to symbolise the human victims of landmines, as a two-week conference to tighten

landmines, as a two-week conference to tighten restrictions on the use of landmines began.

The talks should have been completed in Vienna last October but were adjourned because governments could not agree on key details. In the six months since then, mines have killed or maimed an estimated 13,752 people—each represented by a single shoe dumped on the lawn outside the UN's Palais des Nations.

The campaign to ban anti-personnel mines has gained momentum in the past year with growing recognition by generals that the mines have little military value. Britain is set to join calls for a ban, reversing a long-standing policy, officials said yesterday. They said ministers were likely to announce the U-turn to Parliament today.

Liechtenstein has become the 30th state to support a ban, following Germany and Australia.— Reuter, Geneva and London. PHOTOGRAPH DONALDSTAMPFU

Bulgaria to close reactor

BULGARIA has responded to international pressure and agreed to close the oldest nuclear reactor at the Kozloduy plant on May 15, for safety tests to be carried out. The decision was reached at a 15, nor savery users up by carried out. The users and safety experts at meeting of Bulgarian and Western engineers and safety experts at the end of last week in Sofia, but has not yet been amounced. Concern focused on the metal of Reactor 1's pressure vessel, which has become briffle, and on one weld in particular.

Metal templates will be stripped from the inside of the reactor, it is to be the transmitted for the form of the presence.

and sent to Russia for fests. If necessary, the templates will then be annealed, a process involving the slow heating, then slow cooling, of the metal. A similar process has already been carried out at

Reactor 2.
"The running of this reactor at the moment contains an element of risk. Every day we can shorten its running is a contribution to safety," a relieved Tom O'Sullivan, the European Commission ambassador in Sofia, said.— Nick Thorpe, Budayest.



More than 100 killed China plays a 'Russia card'

In the second article of a series on President Yeltsin's visit, **Andrew Higgins** looks at Beijing's new hand in the game of triangular diplomacy in which it is hoping to dent US power

ORTY-VIVE minutes | Yeltsin, China hopes to ca-before Richard ment peace along its 2,760-Nixon went on television 25 years ago to reveal a secret singer, the Soviet Union view of Washington's new

ontsoy an advance text of Nixon's television address — and a note warning of "serious results" if Moscow kept stalling a superpower summit.

Moscow got the messa "Negotiations deadlocked for months began magically to unfreeze," Mr Kissinger later

ported. Now it is China's turn, although the "Russia card" it would like to play against Washington is a feeble simuliplomatic coup,

With a visit this week to

huge joint project for a gas pipeline from Siberia to the Yellow Sea, and play its own muted game of triangular "This is an elaborate way for China to say hoo' to Washington," said Steve Le-vine, an American expert on China card". The White House handed Sino-Russian relations. "They will not be able to revive the

> The current role of Mr Kissinger, the grandmaster of cold war power geometry, who was in Beijing last week drumming up business for US corporations, shows how corporations, shows how Nixon frightened Moscow by flirting with China.

old strategic trlangle, but they

can try to cause anxiety.

mile northern border, seal a

No matter how cosy China becomes with its former ally and long-standing Russian rival, it will still depend on Betjing by President Boris US markets and US invest-

trade with Russia last year amounted to only £3.5 billion. with the balance in Moscow' favour. With the US, China

had a surplus of £20 billion. But China still sees Russi as a source of leverage. Chi-na's state-run media emphasises Mr Yeltsin's trip as hav-ing more than bilateral significance. The official Xin-hua news agency said it would draw "worldwide attention".

Wen Wei Po, a Hong Kong newspaper that acts as a Beij-ing mouthpiece, crowed over rapprochement with Russia as a blow to American power 'It is now obvious that Sinc Russian relations are better than either country's ties with the US, which indicates the US has lost the status and leverage it had in the 1970s." Unlike Deng Xlaoping and

other revolutionary veterans China's current leaders have personal, and apparently fond, memories of Moscow from the 1950s, before Khrushchev started calling Mao a "margarine communist" and the two former allies became

As many as 15 members of China's polithuro were edu-cated in Russia and speak Rus sian. President Jiang Zemin trained at the Stalin Autoworks, a showcase of Soviet industry, now called ZiL.

American strategy of "contain-ment", China's leaders look to Moscow as a valuable source of weapons and technical expertise, and as a diplomatic counterweight to the US.

When President Clinton sent two aircraft carrier battle groups to Taiwan last month, China's most potent weapon in its war games off Talwan was its new Russian Sukhoi warplane. Beijing reached a co-production deal late last year that allows China to man-ufacture the planes.

Such military co-operation however, has been far from

Wary of what they see as an | the Tiananmen Square student protests in 1989. Mr Yelt-sin has already visited Betjing and met President Jian; twice in Moscow.

But never before have Chiese and Russian leaders met against a backdrop of such troubled relations between

"There is a "Russia card" but it is not a trump card," said James Tang of Hong Kong University. "China will play it as far as it can against Weshington but they can't Washington but they can't use it to shift the strategic

equation." Mr Yeltsin's trip follows

The US will not allow the emergence of a great country in Europe or Asia that threatens its power to dominate'

easy. Due to squabbles over | fruitless talks in The Hague payment, a second squadron of Sukhoi warplanes, painted in Chinese colours, sat for years at the Siberian airport at Krasnoyarsk. China finally agreed to pay cash. It had eared canned fruit for a Russian IJ-38 bomber. Mr Yeltsin's three-day visit, which starts tomorrow, has singer's China breakthrough in 1971, nor Mikhail Gorba-

chev's turbulent visit during

between Qian Qichen, the Chinese foreign minister, and Warren Christopher, the US secretary of state, the latest in a series of failed attempts to lift Sino-US relations out of exchange of ambassadors in

1979. Still more disturbing for China was Mr Clinton's trip last week to South Korea and Japan, where the US main-tains a combined force of China regards America's mil-ttary presence in Asia as aimed primarily at thwarting its policy on Taiwan and its emergence as a big power.

China's anti-American rhetoric echoes that used against the Soviet Union at the height of the cold war. Accusations of hegemony appear with increasing regularity. "The US will not allow the emergence of a great country on the European or Asian continents that threatens its power to dominate," said the

People's Daily.

But any fears Washington
may have about the emergence of China as a great power are felt even more acutely in Moscow. Until the 19th century, large portions of what is now the Russian Far East belonged to China. China has relinquished its claim to Vladivostok, but maps still give its former Chi-

nese name, Haishenwei. "If China and Russia can get on, this is nothing but pos-itive. This removes a major source of instability in Asia." said David Shambaugh, edi-tor of the China Quarterly. "But there is so much suspicion and mistrust from the past that their hostility could re-emerge very quickly.

US credibility in the Middle East is at stake as Christopher fails to break the deadlock



Quietly determined . . Lebenese civilians in Beirut stopped whatever they were doing yesterday as a minute's allence was observed to remember the 162 refugees who were killed last week when Israeli troops fired shells at the United Nations camp at Qana, in southern Lebanon, provoking condemnation from around the world

Syrian leader raises price of ceasefire

David Hirst in Beirut and Derek Brown in Jeruselan

ceasefire between Is-rael and Hizbullah has all but vanished as President Hafez al-Assad of Syria ex-ploits the central role he has secured for himself in diplo-matic efforts to find a

The signs are that President Assad intends to make Israel and the Unites States pay as dearly as possible for what he sees as jointly-planned aggression in Leba-non that has gone seriously

The Syrian press stepped up its anti-American propaganda yesterday, even as US secretary of state, Warren Christopher, met Mr Assad for a second time on his shuttle mission between Damascus and Jerusalem.

"Washington is to blame for the bloodbath committed by its strategic ally in Lebanon," the Syrian Times said. Those who fail to condemn the Israeli crime at Qana are not honest or serious in their peace efforts," added Tish-reen, referring to the shelling of a refogee camp. Israel must be punished, the press agreed.

In the face of this on- | [Israeli] communities," he | of missiles to its Hizbullah | slaught, the US negotiating team were very cautious about their prospects

yesterday. "We think we have a chance of putting a deal together this week," the state department spokesman, Nicholas Burns, said in Damascus. "but that is not assured."

With so much uncertainty surrounding the diplomacy, the Israeli prime minister, Shimon Peres, told parlia-ment there was no deadline to

the military operation.
"Grapes of Wrath is an operation that is not limited in time but is detailed in its goals. The goal is to hring An Israeli source said the long-term quiet to northern group had supplied hundreds

said. of using the Hizbullah guer

burst he told parliament that if Lebanon did not free itself from "Iranian occupation", it would never have peace.

For the first time in the campaign warplanes struck repeatedly at positions of the Popular Front for the Libera-tion of Palestine-General Command, a pro-Syrian "rejectionist" group, at Naame, a few miles south of Belrut.

tinued to shell the coastal highway between Beirut and sabotage the Middle East Sidon, wounding more notorists. Hizbullah launched more

Katyusha salvos on northern The Israeli proposals which

Israeli naval artillery con-

Mr Christopher took to Damascus have not been officially disclosed, but they evidently include Mr Peres's offer of an immediate truce, to be followed, in due course, by a formal written

Syria and Lebanon are reported to have quickly dis-missed the offer as a trap.

Arafat urges changes to PLO charter

tine National Council yesterday to urge it to amend passages of the 1964 Palestine Liberation Organisa-tion charter calling for the destruction of Israel.

"I call upon your council to amend all the articles in the national charter which contradict the peace of the brave that we signed," he Israel allowed many extended the opening session in ided representatives on the thority."—Reuter.

PERSIDENT Yasser Ara- | Gaza. Under the self-rule | 669-member council to deal with Israel last year,

> amend the clauses. Israel has made it a condition for its withdrawal from the West Bank town of Hebron and for starting negotiations on the final status of the West Bank and Geza Strip, including Arab

east Jersualem. Israel allowed many ex-

Mr Arafat promised to

return to the self-rule areas

Mr Arafat told the councll after the meeting began in Gaza to ask its legal committee to "formulate and amend the charter taking into consideration the new facts which rose on the ground with the establishment of the Palestinian Au-

trying to achieve for Mr Peres
politically what Israel had
failed to achieve militarily.
According to American officials, the US wants a written
version of the understandings that ended the last big flare-up in July 1993.

But as the Syrians and the Lebanese see it this version

One Beirut newspaper accused Mr Christopher of

actually amounts to a fundamental revision of the understandings.
Hizbullah would be barred from retaliating with Katyu-

sha salvos on northern Israel against Israeli attacks on Lebnese civilians. Even less acceptable to Hiz-

bullah, it would be denied the right to "resist" enemy occu-pation with attacks against military targets in the Israeli-declared south Lebanese security zone. Israel's offer in return for

this virtual demobilisation of Hizbullah would be, as a Belso the meeting could take rut newpaper put it, "some non-guaranteed promise to withdraw from Lebanon after toral boost in his own battle nine nonths".

nine nonths".

Furthermore, the fragility of a mere truce would create

against Senator Bob Dole in November.

"It's unfair to make this out of a mere truce would create

Clinton's diplomacy in tatters

Jonathan Freedland in Washington

HE crisis in the Middle East began to emerge yesterday as a diplo-matic disaster for the United States, as well as a threat to the people of the region.
As Warren Christopher, the

United States secretary of state, was forced to extend his peace shuttle, US officials conceded that the battle between Israel and Hizbullah

rassed the government.

Mr Christopher's two meetings with President Halez al-Assad of Syria yesterday were in bleak contrast to earlier US promises of a breakthrough by the weekend.

The exercise has dealt several blows to America's standing in the region, symbolised sion to keep Mr Christopher waiting in Damascus on Satorday while he saw Yevgeny Primakov, the Russian for-

Unprepared for the international fury at the slaughter in Qana last week, the adminis-tration has suddenly had to adopt a more even-handed This will be manifest later

this week, officials said, in a cooler welcome than usual to Shimon Peres, the Israeli prime minister, when he visits Washington. Qana has also created an opening for France and Rus-

sia to pursue their own Middle East initiatives, each sending its foreign minister to the region. The Lebanon crisis has de-

railed the administration's strategy for the region. Washington had been using the issue of terrorism to unite Israel and moderate Arab states against Iran, and to a lesser extent Syria.

But the civilian casualties

in Lebanon have forced even moderate Arab leaders to conlemn Israel and stand behind

The anti-terrorism campaign has been suspended.

At the root of Washington's problem is its closeness to Is-rael. The administration's op-tions in the Middle East are sharply constrained by its constant support for Tel Aviv

— a political necessity because of the importance of American Jewry's 6 million

votes.

"There is no local Arab politics in the US," said Anthony Cordesman, a politi-cal analyst. US sources concede that since there is nothing to be gained politically by backing any country other than Israel, US priorities in the area have been one-sided. US officials are particularly alarmed by Israeli polls which show Mr Peres's lead narrowing in next month's election. The administration is afraid that a victory by Benyamin Netanyahu, leader of the opposition Likud party.

of a mere truce would create such a climate of uncertainty that the 400,000 refugees who have fied their towns and villages would be afraid to are setbacks, but we antici-

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Land of the red olive

The centre-left victory is good for Italy

change. The capture of the process by Silvio Berlusconi two years ago was a symbol of continuing disintegration rather than of reconstruction. The tawdry process of his rule was probably necessary. The electorate still needed time to come to terms with the idea that there could be an alternative to the old firm. What finally discredited Mr Berlusconi was less the charges levelled against him personally than the suspicion that he and his ministers were trying to undermine the drive against corruption. Those voting on Sunday against the right-wing alliance joined those voting for the centre-left to tip the balance. It is triumphant confirmation at the national level (already previewed over the past two years in other elections) of a real fresh start.

tions) of a real fresh start.

Mr Berlusconi clung till the end to his belief that the grand cavalier would strength for Mr Prodi to have united centre and left, catholic and secular victors is less secure in the performer, says (as well he might)
"Thanks, Italians!" Instead of the gnarled and twisted stump of old politics, there is a young new olive tree. We don't know how much fruit it will bear,

but its leaves show a healthy sheen. against the assumption that it would not be allowed to. It also created an atmosphere in which those who opposed the system themselves became demoralised and to a varying extent

OUT OF ITALY comes news at last of a | It is a historical irony that the "left" is new political orbit. E pur si muove, we now deemed to have won when it is no might say with Galileo. Italian politics | longer predominantly or coherently are not immutable after all: the cynics left-wing. There will be no lack of are wrong and this time there is real prophets warning that Mr Prodi must pay a higher price for the support of the Communist Refoundation (CR). But their alarm is a pale echo of the anticommunist propaganda which served the rightwing and its Mafia friends so well for so long. In any case Mr Prodi can strike a deal — whether with the CR or perhaps the Northern League from a position of some numerical and psychological advantage. The financial markets have already set the tone with their judgment that this victory of the "left" will safeguard the lira and stability. So much for the red menace! This coalition is now regarded as more serious than its right-wing alternative about cutting budget deficits, privatising state companies and tightening Italy's fiscal belt to qualify for European

ers). Now he has gone out with charac- forces. His victory is less secure in the teristic bad grace, sneering that "we'll all meet again abroad." Victorious ate, and he may find it hard to establish a common denominator on a whole ing the campaign of not being a star | range of issues from state broadcasting to electoral reform. Nor should the Freedom Alliance — whether or not Mr Berlusconi himself implodes — be written off. The reaction of the National Alliance leader Gianfranco Fini, main ally of Mr Berlusconi and self-declared Italy's "blocked democracy" of the past 50 years not only ensured that a genuine opposition could never prevail grace and promised vigorous opposition. tion. Mr Fini is positioning himself for the longer term; he is a man to be watched warily. These factors could mean that the new coalition will only last for a couple of years. It is still a degraded. Mr Prodi presides over a new great victory for the Olives and a great and somewhat shakily assembled force.



Yes, but MPs are doing the right thing for wrong reasons

by the time the next election comes. There is little doubt now that MPs will Rule two, which derives irresistibly from rule one, says: never give MPs a big pay rise just before an election if Parliament. An election looms. And what do we find? An unpopular government is contemplating a 30 per cent hike in backbenchers' pay - taking an MP's salary from £34,850 to around £45,000 before the summer. Have the long years in office finally turned their heads? By any normal logic the Conservatives would be only too delighted to pass this poisoned cup to an incoming government. Why don't they do so this time? It just doesn't make sense.

Except that, on this occasion, it does of a sort. The readiness to contemplate a pay rise has nothing to do with any concern about appropriate rewards for legislative service. Instead it is all to do, as usual, with personal advantage. If the Conservatives lose badly next time round, a lot of long-serving Tory MPs will be out of work. Their troubled minds are turning to their post-electheir pensions. The tea-room talk is of how a big pay rise will give them a Tony Newton, Leader of the Commons.

RULE number one in the almanac of is said to have been persuaded that conventional wisdom concerning MPs' Tory backbenchers deserve a reward pay increases reads as follows: make a after a miserable year and to believe big award at the start of a Parliament so that a nice rise will help keep the get an over-the-odds "catch-up" in-

crease of some sort. MPs' pay is an issue where politiyou want to be re-elected. Yet here we cians should not cringe before the altar are within a few months of the end of a of public opinion even though it is easy to understand why they do. British MPs are poorly paid by international standards. Their staff back-up and office conditions, though improved, remain antiquated and inadequate. They work long hours, both at Westminster and in their constituencies (though a week in which there are but a brace of two-line whips may not be the best one in which to make this case). Higher pay might deter some from taking outside consultancies. The task of getting MPs' salaries and conditions on to an appropriate footing is part of the necessary modernisation of public life, though only a part. It could usefully be considered alongside the reduction of parliamentary numbers; a house of 500 rather than the present 651 would be perfectly adequate and would save money. This will in any case become an issue if devolution and Lords reform are cartoral prospects and, in particular, to ried through, when fewer MPs may be necessary. They should get the money - but it would be hard to find a better much better final salary on which to case study of how MPs will probably do calculate their future entitlements. the right thing for all the wrong

Suffering from tunnel vision

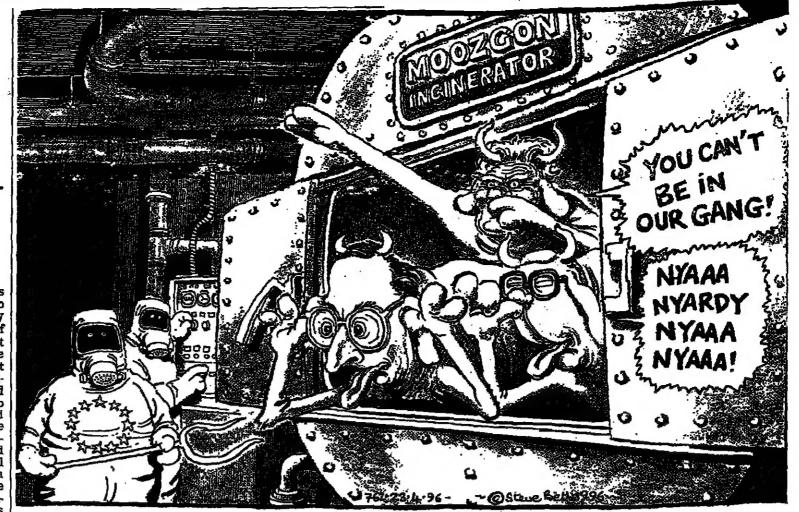
Private sector dogma has sold Le Shuttle short

feat of civil engineering - but a finan- shops while Le Shuttle can't sell booze cial disaster. Yesterday's first year losses of £925 million, on sales of £299 million, created a gap between spending and income that would have given Mr Micawber apoplexy. Even if it had, impossibly, tripled its prices, Eurotunnel would have lost money. Yet it has increased its share of the cross-Channel ferry market from nought to 45 per cent. Few companies anywhere are that successful in year one.

Eurotunnel's first excuse is that there isn't a level playing field. The tunnel was, rightly, lumbered with fierce safety requirements like automatic fire doors in each carriage, while ferries still don't have to install bulwarks to stabilise their wide-open car decks. Second, the fast rail link to London, making the tunnel really attractive, still hasn't been started. Third, ferries can offer cut-price tickets because they

THE CHANNEL tunnel is a stupendous have become vast floating duty-free on board. Ferries increased capacity while the tunnel was being built, triggering a price war that is great for the consumer but bad for Eurotunnel. The moral is that mega-infrastruc-

tural projects can't be built profitably by the private sector. Never forget that the tunnel was to be Mrs Thatcher's proof that the private sector could do exactly that. Now, with the benefit of hindsight, the fast rail link will be well over 50 per cent financed by the taxpayer, to reflect the fact that £6 billion of "external benefits" to the community (like reduced pollution) will accrue which can't be recouped from ticket sales. If such common sense had been applied to the tunnel, it would now be well on its way to profits. Instead it suffered, and will continue to suffer, from the Government's unique form of tunnel vision.



Letters to the Editor

Those troublesome teenage years

N defence of his proposal to other hand, the proposal to end child benefit for 16 to axe child benefit for 16 to 18 18-year-olds, Gordon Brown (Strife begins at 16, April 22) claims those who receive it "are more likely to be from the wealthier families". Hence, it "is a subsidy for the school fees of the wealthy rather than an incentive to assist the education of the very

This is simply not true. For many of the one million families who would lose their present entitlement, child benefit makes the difference be-tween being able to keep their sons or daughters in further education. Gordon's proposal would drive many more families into poverty, hitting par-ticularly vulnerable sections of society - such as single mothers - hardest.

While he claims that "25 per cent of 17-year-old pupils whose mothers receive child benefit are at private, fee-paying schools", the House of Commons library, on the con-trary, informs us that the actual proportion is around 10 per cent. If Gordon's concern is to improve the financing of post-16 education, then it would have been very simple for him to say so. Proposals for better training, education and maintenance grants for 16- to 18-year-olds would be welcomed by millions of po-tential Labour voters. On the

A poor show

THE declaration of the

World Summit for Social

Development focused on the

need to eradicate absolute

poverty: a condition charac-

terised by severe deprivation of human needs, such as clean

drinking water and adequate

food supplies (Poverty, What poverty? says Lilley, April

17). As such, the recommen-dations made in Copenhagen

relate principally to less de-

veloped countries, where the

absence of these basic human

needs predominates. It is just

misrepresentation to suggest that this is the position in this country and other well-devel-

oped industrial nations. Your reporter uses the

numbers living below half average income or below In-

come Support levels as "prox-

ies for poverty measures". This ignores the significant rise in real household in-

comes since 1979. Using the

numbers of Income Support creates a nonsensical situa-

tion; whenever we raise bene

fit rates, more people qualify for them, and so on this defi-

Research by the Institute for Fiscal Studies has shown that

there is a considerable turn-over in the membership of the

hardly indicative of en-

and significantly, those

people in the lowest income

groups do not have the lowest standard of living when

judged by expenditure. Getting people into work and improving earnings po-

tential is the key to improv-

ing low income. Since its peak in 1992, unemployment has

fallen by 760,000. In addition, Family Credit, which I intro-

duced, helps nearly 630,000

families to be better off in

work. Independent research has shown that families

receiving Family Credit are

on average £23 per week bet-

ter off than those unemployed

and receiving Income

In the 1994 Budget the

Chancellor announced work-incentive measures worth al-

most £700 million which will

help 750,000 people to move

Sir Norman Fowler MP.

House of Commons. London SW1A 0AA.

into work

nition we increase poverty. Furthermore, in any assess-ment of income levels it is im-portant to consider mobility between income groups.

year-olds will alienate them. Furthermore, Gordon's statement contradicts Labour's long-standing annual conference policy to retain child benefit in full and uprate its value in line with inflation. Only the Government will benefit from Gordon Brown's decision to change this policy on the hoof. We have already had the hypocritical statement by Peter Lilley that the proposal to scrap child benefit for 16- to 18-year-olds is merely the thin end of the wedge. We can be sure that the Conservatives will extract maximum political advantage from Gordon's rash error in the run-up

to the general election.

More fundamentally, sarious resources for investment in education, training and Britain's manufacturing base could be made available without increasing the tax hurden on the vast majority of the electorate. To take the single largest potential source of funds, on the latest official fig-ures, if the share of dividend payments in UK gross domes-tic product was reduced from its record level in 1995 to its came to office in 1979, 522.7 billion a year would be released for investment. Compared to that, Gordon Brown's

Something to chew on

Company cars in a collision

YOUR Transport Editor's benefit, our research shows reporting of Labour's supposed policy proposals pany cars is still around fit

by a group involving Transport 2000 and Michael extra driving — indeed, the Meacher's office a long time ago. He did not contact my office to find out if he had a real leak. He then wrote an hess) miles a year compared with creating three fuel for private user ago. All of these encourage with free fuel drives 5,000 extra private (ie non-business) miles a year compared milks and the state of t

YOUR report (Parents who pacify babies with dum-

paciny basies with dumines may nurture dumines, April 19) referred only to basies. Alas, we often see dumines in the mouths of three-year-olds. The purpose is not so much to keep them

quiet as to stop them wanting

to eat all the time. Being

given snacks from an early

(Labour targets company cars, April 18) was misleading. Somebody sent him a copy of a document drawn up

alarmist report suggesting that Labour policy would

damage the car industry. This

caused worry to people working in the industry.

I spoke to him the next day

and told him he had been misled, and simply had the wrong

document. He then wrote an

other story maintaining the fiction that the document had

any relevance. On top of this we got an editorial saying it

My real policy document will be made available shortly

- we can then debate these

Shadow Transport Secretary.

YOU are right to ask why Labour is shying away from tackling company cars

(Leader, April 19). Although, as the RAC says (Letters, April 20), recent reforms have brought company-car tax-

ation much closer to the real

was a good document.

Clare Short MP.

House of Commons.

London SWIA OAA.

the disadvantage that they both affect a significant number of poorer families and will make it more difficult to win the next general election. We now need a clear state-ment by the party leadership that Labour will stand by its past pledges to retain child benefit in full and fund the

necessary radical increase in spending on education, training and investment not by pe-nalising middle-income earners but by reducing the share of the economy going to un-earned income via the City. Ken Livingstone MP. Diane Abbott MP. House of Commons,

GORDON Brown quite frightly points out the un-fairness of the child-benefit system by comparing the famllies of the unemployed 16-year-old and the Eton sixth-former. The solution to this problem is to pay child benefit for all 16 and 17-year-olds ex-cept those in employment or on YT schemes, for which they receive a training allowance. In fact there is a strong case for increasing levels of child benefit, as families on average income have fared badly under this Tory govern-ment. This could be paid for by adopting a fair progressive tax system and abolishing the married allowance which

THATILL

age, they get used to having something in their mouths and the dummy prevents per-

petual demands which the children have never been

taught to check. It is obvious that it inhibits the natural de-

that the tax lost from com-pany cars is still around £1 billion a year, through eva-sion, abuse of the mileage

"break points" and the under-taxing of free fuel for private use. All of these encourage extra driving — indeed, the

with a private-car driver.

The car industry denies all

the evidence of abuse. Not

surprising - reforming the system so that it encourages

people to drive less would

force the industry to adapt and produce smaller, less pol-

luting cars. Car dealers would

have to stop giving hig dis-counts to fleet buyers at the expense of individuals. All of

this would be in the public in-

terest, and would even create

more jobs. Clare Short and

Steven Norris — both fam-ously honest politicians —

ought to units to get rid of

these abuses rather than com-pete to defend them.

Director, Transport 2000,

Please include a full postal

number. We may edit letters:

acknowledge those not used.

shorter ones are more likely to

address and a telephone

Stephen Joseph.

10 Melton Street, London NW1 2EJ.

velopment of speech. Olive Price.

THOMING

benefits childless comples as well as families. Jackie Terry. 87 Fairfax Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 9DA.

WE should remember the origins of child benefit. There used to be tax allowances for children. Socialists ances for children. Socialists campaigned against this because people who did not earn enough to pay income tax got no benefit from the state towards the cost of keeping their children. The child benefit paid to the better-off is a replacement for allowances which, in justice, they should Ada Tremlett. 4 Underhill Mobile

don Brown's proposel and the fact that £3.2 billion of government benefits goes un-claimed each year (Monsy Guardian, April 20) is a worrying reflection on the Labour leadership's priorities. A campaign should be organised in conjunction with the CAB, Child Poverty Action, the trade unions and any other interested agencies to ensure that the most needy claim their antitleme Chris & Colin Penfold.

Men of letters

Y me (February 3, 1996) in which I referred to the role of the former British Ambassaacted unprofessionally in by his embassy to Cambridge University Press, and if the letter conveyed any contrary impression, I withdraw it unequivocally and I offer my apologies to Mr Miles. ames Pettifer

Oxford and Cambridge Club. 71 Pall Mall.

of that country? Harold Smith

London N3 2SY.

Commins Coch, Macynlleth,

/OU published a letter from

dor to Greece, Cliver Miles, in the decision by Cambridge University Press not to publish a book about Greece by Dr Anastasia Karakasidou. It was not my intention to suggest that Mr Miles had

FIND the outburst of letters ion Israel (April 20) rather selective in their judgment. Did these people protest at the incessant bombardment of Israeli settlements in the north

Gwendolen Avanue, London SW15.

One's subjects give their views

T Is for the nation, not Simon Hoggart, to decide whether or not the monarchy should continue (Mother of all our misfortunes, April 20). Recent opinion polls show that a large majority favour the Queen and this is espe-cially true of young people. 54 per cent of whom think that she should be given a more substantial role in govern-ment. Almost half of those polled believe that the Queen would make a better minister than John The Queen provides stability. The sense of duty which has enabled her to reign for almost 50 years serves as an example which is appreciated far beyond our shores. Sir Sigmund Sternberg.

Sternberg Centre for Judaism, 80 East End Road,

HOUGH Simon Hoggart is a self-confessed monarchist, he does criticise royalty to a degree which would have had him suspended, literally, in days of yore, when criticism of a monarch was equated to treason. He says: 'It's absurd to

think that the royals can be blamed for all our problems." Of course it is, but that's not a point in favour of the monarchy. He gives examples of monarchies, implying that monarchs are therefore good for them - but this is the same logic which states that if a healthy cat has fleas, then fleas must be desirable.

Hoggart censures the queen for being "inflexible" and for "living in a world of her own", but monarchs are like that. It is the institution which is ridiculous. Harry Davis. 49 Speer Road, Thames Ditton

Surrey KT7 0PJ

THERE is very little difference between the behav-iour of the Windsors and that of any other usurper royal house. All have acted reprehensibly towards the English; all have promoted and encouraged the sycophancy necessary to the maintenance of their little semblances of

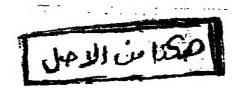
authority. However, with the dislntegration of this latest line of usurpers there is opportunity. We can overthrow these continental interlopers and campaign for the restitution of the true Anglo-Saxon dynasty.
Bryan Williamson.
96 Broadway, Frome,
Somerset BA11 3HG.

A Country Diary

******************* SOMERSET: The "Witan" or dow ... giant pilasters"). It is Royal Council met in what is surprising not to have recognow the peaceful country nised this place as the setting Royal Council met in what is now the peaceful country town of Somerton in AD 949. town of Somerton in AD 949.
A thousand years later, today's Parish Council is responding to local feelings and practising open government.
The minutes published on a board in the market square say: "The Council is dis-mayed to have to comment on another application for a supermarket development linked to the Red Lion com-plex. The chief ground for the council's dismay is the overwhelming weight of opinion of residents. The words "supermarket" and "complex" do not sit comfortably with what Pevsner calls "one of the most happily grouped urban pictures in Somerset" a market cross in the middle of a big open space, an ancient church with an unusual octagonal tower, an aptly-named Broad Street bordered on both sides with trees and wide pavements, and, beside it, the Red Lion Inn ("long symmetrical five-bay front ... depressed rounded archway ... Venetian win-

for a sequence in a Jane Aus ten film adaptation. It has evolved felicitously over centuries with, for example, the dignified Free Grammar School (1676) standing unob-trusively, but very much at home, beside the Red Lion, but the current planning application speaks confidently of "modification of existing road lay-out". The Inn's em-blazoned coat of arms is faded, and the surface of the "R" of "Red" has flaked off. The only bright, new sign is that of Magnum Security (24hour cover), which quite overshadows the discreet Egon Ronay -1989 and Tour-ing Club -1988. The "depressed rounded archway", barred by an elaborate wrought iron gate, and clamped shut with a brutal padlock, leads to an overgrown, cobbled courtyard. The Parish Council is clearly doing its best to see that it will be opened to the right SOFT of use.

JOHN VALLINS



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FURT TORY

The Guardian Tuesday April 23 1996

Diary

Joanna Coles

OU CAN'T BE IN OUR GANG!

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One's subjects

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agree, Edward's bestest suggestion to hold his mama's 70th-birthday party at the Waterside Inn in Bray. After all, it's the only restaurant outside London to hold three Michelin stars and Ed knew that his mum didn't want much fuss. (But most of all, as she made clear, she didn't want Fergie or Diana in attendance.) How mean-spirited then that someone should choose to spoil his super plan by leaking all the details to the press. On Saturday the Daily Mail ran an exclusive story miraculously out-lining the guest list and even the cost of the meal (£100 each). As a result, cameras were parked on the lawns at Bray from dawn on Sunday, and at the last minnte the Queen decided to cancel what was supposed to be a confidential engage ment. (The food was delivered to Windsor Castle instead.) Ed is now attempting to find out the leaker's iden-tity. Alas, I can offer no clues. The fact that the story was bylined by one Richard Kay, Diana's confi-dant on the Mail, is unhelpful. It is, I am certain, sim-ply one of life's increasingly

AM thrilled to report the latest details of my friend Terry Major-Ball's trip to the Melbourne Flower Show. Last time we spoke he was just off to Marks & Spencer to stock up on boiled sweets for the flight. Wisely, he has kept a fascinating if myopically detailed diary of the trip. Sit back while I indulge you: 'Sunday: I am a little disappointed that Qantas call their cabin crew flight at-I have nothing against male stewards but I enjoy being served by charming young ladies and see no reason to be ashamed of it. Only a few months ago I was repri-manded for addressing a female person as a lady. Tam not a lady, I am a woman, she replied. My mother would find this quite beffling and so do I. To my mind a woman is like a Lamborghini. Anyone can admire a Lamborghini. That doesn't mean it's yours and you can get in and drive it." Warm, valuable words. Tomorrow: Terry has an acpenci L

RANWHILE "Mad Frankie" Johnson, editor of the Spectator, has been fending off unadmirer is none other than the Roquefort-faced author AN Wilson, who has been unburdening himself in the Evening Standard. "I have for a long time nursed un-wholesome thoughts about that gorgeous wavy-haired bachelor, the editor of the Spectator." he confesses. before explaining that various things have prevented him from "coming out" before. "One is that one dreads rejection. The other is that Mr Johnson, a selfconfessed member of the working class, might not understand my declarations. He might even go around saying I was a 'poof', 'shirt-lifter' and other offensive names." A quick chat with Mad Frankie, and be assures me he would say no such thing. "My rivals are both inflamed and only. Most intriguing.

UREN Mary College is staging a confer-ence on "Government Accountability: Be-yond the Scott Report". Cost, a democratic £285 per head. Rules: Chatham House, ie: This meeting never even took place.

NOTHER dizzying NOTHER dizzy in a cutry for the Diary's Most Excitable Press Release: "From Essex County Council Lime Day at Cressing Temple: An Introduction to Lime. Mention Lime and the chance are you will spark a lively debate." Indeed you will sir, indeed you will.

AM grateful to my friends at Police Review for recounting the following tale of PCs Willie Ross and Ian Shepherd, who visited the home of a suspected drug-dealer in Auchterarder recently. While there, they noticed no at-tempt had been made to conceal a handsome cannabis plant. Next day, armed with returned to seize it. Only to discover it was made of



No waves in the clear blue water

Commentary Hugo.

Young

URFING towards a famous victory. Labour should embody the spirit of the times. They did in 1945, the one decisive capture of power they have ever recorded. They seemed to in 1964, when the white heat of technology helped Harold Wilson scrape home. They claim to in 1996. home. They claim to in 1996, when they're so bold as to publish a book' designed to mark a new intellectual ascendancy: Intellectuals for Labour. It should be a definng moment. Nobody would have dared propose such an enterprise in Nell Kinnock's time. Now that it has hap-pened, it turns out to suggest why such self-effacement was

Here we have what Tony Blair has called a "coalition of thinkers". This answers to his consistent mantra for a poli-tics of the "broad centre-left" (ie not just paid-up Labour people), and presumably what it was supposed to offer was a series of texts transcending

is proof of a body of thought reaching beyond narrow poli-tics and embracing many branches of the intellectual class in support of a new age of reform. But what we get is an unintended corrective, to be contemplated less for its excitement than its modesty. First, consider the cast of authors. The 20 contributors

include few genuine intellec-tuals. Perhaps "intellectual": tuals. Perhaps "intellectual"; has acquired a more generous definition, but the truth is that this coalition is dominated by policy works and special-interest lobbyists—para-politicians, in fact—with a personal interest in Labour being elected. Neal Ascherson, David Marquand and Charles Handy might qualify, and so would Denis Healey but for his long, contaminating service as a Labour politiing service as a Labour politi-cian. But in general, this is not a gathering of thinkers from beyond politics, speak-ing for a fusion between their worlds — academe, literature

In 1964, as Wilson's party prepared to oust the Macmil-lan-Home anachronism, such a spirit of shared expectation the leader of the Labour to welfare reform, modern patterns more prevalent. A common language reached speciacle of 1996 will be the through the chattering working out of Tony Blair's is just as aware as the other

the daily business, attesting to classes. I do not think this is a zeitgeist of which the now amparent. The engagement about Party is now sole properties. As in both 1945 and 1964, what might be expected many others, they may agree many others, they may agree that the Tories must depart. But their alternative allegiance is less than positive. In the modern Lahour Party, likes and politics fit together on pragmatic lines, usually in rough conformity with what the leader is saying. In this collection, Judge Tumim's sensible reflections on crime and punishment stand almost alone in exposing — and then only by implication — the cat-

astrophic errors of the party line.

Second, however the intel-Second, however, the intel-lectuals in question are not entirely to blame. Times have greatly changed. In 1945, both politicians and voters retained great faith in the power of government to im-prove the world. In 1964, the faith of voters may have di-minished, but government still showed unquestioning still showed unquestioning confidence in National Plans and all-embracing blueprints.
In 1996, neither the politician
nor his public has anything
but a modest belief in the
capacity of government to do
very much. This is the age of
low expectations, and the prelow expectations, and the pre-vailing caution is reflected by no one more insistently than

eral against his cautionary self-doubt in particular his faith that his time has come, against his belief in the limits of what he can promise to do. Perhaps even what he

wants to promise. For here is the third, and most suggestive, revelation in What Needs To Change: that the answer is, apparently, rather little. At Labour's other defining moments, this was never true. In 1945, the nation voted for a post-war socialism encompassing all the major sectors of public life, in 1964, Wilson's vision of change, however thinly held it later proved to be, seemed to reach across the board, and in the fields of culture and liberty his govern-ment clocked up a serious re-cord of reform. But in 1996, whatever the party rhetoric says, the opportunities for dis-tinctiveness are much

In 1964, Wilson's vision of change, however thinly held it later proved. seemed to reach across the board

smaller, and the claims to it tend towards the fraudulent. The intellectuals write against a background of mas-sive, accelerating change: "the information revolution, trans-formations in technology, global markets in finance, business and investment, dramatic shifts in labour market and changes at work and in the family", as their editor, Giles Radice MP, sums it up. From macro-economic policy

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS 9 messianic self-belief in gen-

es. One of the big differences from 1964 is that nobody can pretend to possess the Big Idea, or any longer foster the Great Illusion, under which the left used to believe that market forces in all their variety could be resisted. Shorn of verbiage, not only is the analysis made by Old Tory quite similar to New Labour's, but the remedies have the same air of heterodox uncertainty. The common themes of this book are practical not ideological: virtually every ideological: virtually every author, for example, finds a way of defining education as the make-or-break test for a successful Blair government.
A basic point and true enough, but hardly the stuff of a zeitgeist-shift.
One idea of distinctiveness and substance does emerge. It

is the case for reform of politics itself: structure, system, our very democracy. Amid all the soft-edged words like comthe soft-edged words like community, stakeholding and their derivatives, that is the only reliable difference between the parties. It is vitally important. But as the programme for a whole new era it has its limitations. This is neither 1945 nor 1954, as the thinkest processings one. thinkers unconsciously con-cede. There is no hard radicalism they believe in. For that, one must still look to the right. Radical analyses and apocalyptic answers may not be the only way for real intel-lectuals to make their mark. But they are the way epochs change. The Radice collection exhibits how little the Blair era will change: how defensive, in the end, it may have to be of a social order whose

"What Needs To Change: New Visions For Britain, edited by Giles Radice, £14.99, published by HarperCollins on Thursday

destroyers will by then be shouting at the gates.

election was called, was that Communist Refoundation could not take his economic

policies — policies it regarded as intolerably "anti-worker". Communist Refoundation will not be an easy ally. But if Professor Prodi can hold together the somewhat rag-tag army behind him, then he has it in his power to win some famous victories, for what the Italian people did on Sunday was something remarkable.

In the first place, they sur-prised even themselves by making their curious, hybrid electoral system work. It was set up to promote a two-party

or at least, two-bloc
system in which power would pass at intervals from one to the other in a way that did not happen under the old penta-

That — give or take a myr-lad of political melodramas lad of political melodramas — is the commitment to congre-is what has happened. Leave gation that has made an out Dini's stop-gap adminis- empty space into a place. tration, and the story of the last couple of years is that first Silvio Berluscomi, and now Professor Prodi, have been voted into power with working majorities.

HAT in turn holds out hope — if noth-ing more — that this immensely dynamic, but chaotic, nation can at last achieve the sort of political stability it needs to safeguard its eco-nomic achievements. It may be that, as Prodi suggested in one of the most cryptic remarks of election night, that "Italians have voted for

But when all the qualifications have been made, it is equally clear that they have done much more than just that. On Sunday, they told the world that they really did want decency and sincerity in their political leaders; that the drive against corruption which brought down the old order was more than just hypocritical cant; and that while they were ready to put up with a lot, they were not ready to hand power to a man who was actually on trial for

corruption.
That may be unfair on Silvio Berlusconi, who could yet be found innocent by the courts. It is also the case that Prodi has a problem of his own with the law. Last February, he was told he was under investigation for abuse of office in connection with the sale of a subsidiary while head of the state holding company, IRL

But, politically, what was just as important as either man's innocence or guilt was the starkly different image which each presented to the electorate. On the one hand, Berlusconi, the eternally bronzed, immaculately dressed, silver-tongued television czar. On the other hand, Romano Prodi, a jolly, bespectacled economics professor who often looks and sounds chumsy. The choice was between a

man who glides around in chauffeured limos with smoked windows and one who enjoys pedalling about in bicycle clips. Not the least suprising aspect of Sunday's result is that a majority of Italians turned their backs on the man in the limousine and opted instead for the man in

the bicycle clips.
It is often claimed, most often by Italians themselves, that they are a people be witched by appearances; that they are content not to look below the surface if what they see on that surface is decorous and glittery. On Sunday, they showed that there is

the state of the s

side, and which it addresses with much the same limited armoury of political responses. One of the big differences



Beatrix Campbell

was flying up the Al towards the Tyne Bridge bearing our big, beautiful boy. He was the first in our extended family's youngest generation to leave home.
This was his first homecoming. And it was when the great arc of the Tyne Bridge welcomed him that he wept.

He was home.

The bridge is the iconography of Tyneside, its unifying symbol. Unlike beer or the Toon Army or all those Andy Capp stereotypes of Geordie-land that actually signify a struggle over space, exclusion rather than embrace — the Lads vs Everybody Bise — the bridge is not about Tyneside's brawl with itself.

ironically, its iconic status is growing with the demise of the river as a workplace and its rediscovery as, simply, a place, somewhere defined by the commitment to congregation and the convivial company of strangers. Wild and pany of strangers. With and
witty public pleasures are the
defining culture of this city.
Tyneside has a passionate
sense of place. There's that
bridge. There's the language.
The belief that dialect is
diving and with it an identifi-

dying and with it an identifi-cation with locality, is confounded by Tynesiders' own patois, endlessly modernised

by each generation.

Here the narrow definition
of community as domesticity
is challenged by the mobile communities of razzlers roar-ing around the Bigg Market and the Riverside clubland, in Newcastle's fabled passion for taking to the town, "all dressed up with nowi on". The glorious Georgian Eldon Square that was bulldozed and then bunkered by T Dan Smith is appropriated on Saturday afternoons by Goths, Heavy Metallers, Punks, vege-tarians and animals' friends. The Monument is everyone's meeting place. Who knows the bloke on the pillar? But it

Gateshead's landscape is dominated by the Metrocentre and that scabby car park seen in Get Carter. It is defined by work, wreckage and loss. Perhaps that is why the great debate about Anthony Gorm-ley's Angel of the North sculpture has become so inflamma-tory and so polarised.

sent the row as if it were predictable proletarian philistinism. Don't forget 14,000

people went to see Gormley's Field in Gateshead, housed in old railway sheds, in little more than a month. Amazing. Enemies of the Angel are most in evidence in the comments-book attached to its ma quette. The critics are remark able for two things; their abusiveness and their pessimism about public space. And who can blame them? Their ruinous landscape declares thou shalt not be consulted thou shalt not care. You read "rubbish!" followed by "well ! like it". Or "the birds will have somehere to shit" and "give it to London because they're shite". But Gates-head's remarkable and redemptive public art project

is slowly changing the way we see the place.

What may also be discrientating about the Angel is its soft sexuality. It is undoubtedly masculine. But this is not the transcondant musculents. the transcendent muscularity of the worker we see in socialist realism or fascism or, in-deed, the public art of our industrial hinterlands. The ribs run from top to toe and swell around the disphragm, the slender shoulders and legs, and there's a modest mound at the genitals. Those flaring ribs suggest sexuality. Gormley says: "I use my own body because that's where I live" — unlike a long line of artists who preferred to use women's bedieved. bodies. "I challenge the tradi-tional heroism of the male

work from the inside out." The external ribs produce a "robust silhouette" whose an-gelic ambitions — expressed in its great welcoming wings — seem to celebrate both the engineering that is emblematic of the region, but also a humanity that is always, and the same away than a body yet always more than, a body

For some of the Angel's crit-ics, it is the idea of the monument, literally a landmark, rather than the idea of an angel, that is the problem. The monument, it seems, would spoil a "nice bit of country-side", which depends on the notion of countryside as not-city, like Tate & Lyle sugar, untouched by human hand.

RONICALLY, the Angel will be anchored in the "landscaped" ruins of a colliery. "Though not exactly a slag heap, it's a dump," says Gormley. In any case, it is not "countryside": it is in a conurbation. Gormley hopes his art "can become part of the living experience of turning a site into a place". The Angel be seen against the sky - in the light — in the place where people worked in the dark". Which brings us back to

what produces a place. The Type Bridge is something to see: its pleasure and potency is in seeing, an elegant witness to engineering and the coming The Angel will be built on a hump by the Al, where it will passed by 90,000 people a day. It would be prejudice to represent the state of the North will embrace travellers with those brace travellers with those wings and tell them that wherever they live, here is homecoming.



Spring-cleaning

Italy has rejected the suspect charms of the right in a decisive vote against corruption,

argues John Hooper. But can the new centre-left hold tight?

It is not much of an exag-

geration to say that from the end of the second world war until the end of the cold war, politics in Italy was about just one thing how to keep the western world's most powerful Communist party out of government. It was the abiding concern not only of the Christian Democrats, who dominated political life, but also of their patrons, in the Vatican and the White House. An entire way of doing things grew up around this single aim. Parties of the secular left which, in the normal

F HALF a century is | With time, they and the history, then the out-come of Italy's general election deserves to be called historic.

The transport of the components came to form such a homogeneous en-tity that Italians conferred on them a generic name, the perinpartite or "five-party". In themselves to be cut in as consolation for never being able to hold office.

The collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe doomed this increasingly creaky machine to the scrapyard. It removed the danger that, by voting for the left, the Italians could turn their country into a Cuba within
Europe and the potential
cause of a third world war.
And it also persuaded a mairony about yesterday's

Communist sentiment which built up in the post-war years. In order to get the PDS into power, its leader, Massimo D'Alema, had to carry out an operation which is like a mirror image of the one mounted by the Christian Democrats to be the Communistration of the communistration. keep the Communists out of it. He allied with a progressively broader swathe of par-ties and politicians to the

PDS's right.

He linked up with the middle-of-the-road Popular version this system even allowed for the Communists former left-leaning Christian Democrats, and agreed to let one of them, Professor Roma-no Prodi, be the centre-left's candidate for the premiership. But he also went fur-ther, attracting men like the outgoing premier, Lamberto Dini, and his aspirant successor, Antonio Maccanico, whose natural home is some

irony about yesterday's national investors once they

it should have taken so long toned-down hexapartito for Italians to opt for the left which also embraces what is tribute to the depth of anti-communist sentiment which The fact that Italy's new

The fact that Italy's new ruling alliance embraces the whole of the old PCI is potentially its greatest weakness. Five years ago, a substantial minority within the old Communist party could not stom-ach the ditching of Marxism and went off to form a new group, Communist Refoundation.
In the key, lower house of

parliament, the centre-left Olive Tree alliance will be unable to command a majority without help from the or-thodox Marxists of Commu-

nist Refoundation. One of the right's wittler candidates, speaking as the results came in on Sunday night, dubbed the prospective alliance between the centreleft and Communist Refoun-dation a "Russian salad". "We shall be very interested to see this heterogeneous coconsiderable distance to the alition put to the test," he

So, one imagines, will interular left which, in the normal course of events, would have competed tooth and nall with the Christian Democrats were calciel into joining them in exchange for a movement. The Democratic share in the spoils of power.

And it also persuaded a majority of Communists to give competed tooth and nall with the Christian Democrats were calciel into joining them in exchange for a movement. The Democratic share in the spoils of power.

Party of the Left (PDS). That it also persuaded a majority of Communists to give result. Italians voted for change. But in doing so they phoria. Lamberto Dini could very well get the Treasury in the past — not a pentopartito. The past — not a pentopartito a power. The past in the spoils of power.

Party of the Left (PDS). That



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Writing on the hoof

woman with a gift for friendship and living. She was born into an Anglo-Irish family, the daughter of Robert Skrine, a noted horseman, and a mother who was a linguist and musician, and who under the pseudonym Moira O'Neill wrote in verse about the countryside and people of Ireland with much years, though her creative

delighted when, years after she had given up writing under the pseudonym M J Farrell, she found herself under her real name, even in the one she grew up in and whose modes, mores and decline she had chronicled to such witty and moving effect. The story of the emergence of the inimitable Molly from

the ghost of the anonymous, sexless M J Farrell is charming and arbitrary, as was so much connected with her, She wrote the novel called Good Behaviour in her late sixties and sent it to Sir William Collins, who had pub-lished most of her early being too black a comedy. There the matter rested until ggy Ashcroft came to stay in Molly's house, perched on a Waterford cliff-top and filled with felicitous things, and sis of her artistic imperatives, read the manuscript. Her enjoyment and encouragement wrote for money, an explana-spurred the diffident author to send it to André Deutsch, who recognised a classic. It was warmly reviewed and the dark years after her husshort-listed for the Booker band's death she could not Prize. Everyone — save her write at all. And her writing Prize. Everyone — save her write at all. And her writing faithful devotees — was never was journey-work — inamazed by the emergence of this writer from the mists of another time and place,

Nearly everyone in that Ireland shared one passion. horses. Molly's brother, Walter Skrine, rode in the Grand National, although he had been badly injured in the war. been badly injured in the war. "Everyone rode — even the floating over the angry politi-most timid and shrinking of cal-geographical reality that most timid and shrinking of daughters. One was expected to ride as naturally as one walked," she recalled. "Indeed when I was young I really disapproved of people who didn't ride: it was the only thing that counted — it was your occupation. .

She was educated in fits and starts by governesses until she was sent to the French school at Bray. A docand she was in bed for months. To alleviate the boredom she began to scribble what became her first novel. The Knight Of The Cheerful and durably in two years and the next series of books—under the name of M J Farrell, which she took from a public house as she clattered in the commentary as presenting the property of the commentary as presenting the property of the commentary as presenting the property of their feet—shifting as it is—and that extraordinary Irish when illness prevented her from attending an award ceremony, she listened with amusement to an account of the commentary as presenting to her representative. "But what horrors property in two years and the next series of books—and the next the top of the staking of least.

When illness prevented her that the the door, I do miss taking of both the of the top of the staking of the top of the staking of the next the top of the staking of the next the top of the staking of the next the top of the staking

hard day's hunting. So apparently casually did her remarkable career begin; and over three decades, in intense and painful bouts of writing, crammed into a few months taken off from her precious hunting she wrote Il novels and three plays (in collaboration with John Perry) which were great suc-

sentimental charm.

Molly was always surprised to find herself a writer, and sudden death of her dashing young husband ("a witty, happy man who loved old furniture, me, his daughters, good food and talk" and later, the failure of her fourth West End play which was out of kilter with the era of Look Back in Anger. After Bobby's death she sold their house and moved with her two small daughters to the house in Ardmore where she lived

until her death. Her acute feeling for the secret life of houses, the mark that the years have laid on them, the domestic turmoil and passions that have seeped into the very fabric, the way the colours of ages past have run into the spirit of a later age, all these intangibles play a particular and powerful part in her plots.

Molly fostered the legend that she hated writing, that she did it almost accidentally, deed, contained few of the ingredients necessary for popu-

HE writes of narrow horizons, élite occupations: the preoc cupations of a mon-eyed, hunting. was Ireland, When M J Farrell was writing — a genera-tion before Molly Keane — Ireland, that old entity, was a place of three countries, the new states of Eire and Northern Ireland in search of iden-tities, and this older, notional world of Angio Ireland, on the verge of losing it.
These co-existing cultures

tor diagnosed inciplent TB mon except the ground under

Bearing a legacy

of empty fame

Christopher Robin Milne

irish. But Molly was always alert to the sound of tocsins, and she observed and preserved with greater accuracy than other writers with more pretension to scholarship the minutiae of the last days of the Irish Raj. and of a people who gave so much to the country they lived in and took so much and never learnt the balance.
Written without nods to

apparently endlessly or-dained security in citadels

posterity, her novels are social testimonies, more valu-able because the way of life they recorded has vanished as a system. Yet somehow there is little repining; even as the world sinks beneath the waves there is gallantry and celebration aboard.

Molly, eyes alight with in-nocence, told a good story about her penultimate novel Time After Time, a dazzling tour de force written in her eighties. At a dinner party in her honour in Paris, the guests expressed their horror of Jasper, the hero of the book. "Quel bête" they said and congratulated her on her ferocious imagination at conjuring up such a horror, "Mais Jasper," she said

There never was less truth to a story. She was the most delightful of companions, a connoisseur of beautiful things, a wonderful cook, a woman who somehow all through her life refused disillusion and in doing so illumi-

Keane described herself in a profile in the New Yorker as 'a great old breaker-awayer' Born in a Georgian manor in Co Wicklow, with stables, servants and 300 acres, she first broke all the rules of decency by writing a novel at the age of 16 — "pure as cocoa," she said deprecatingly, and spent the money on hunting boots. She claimed she had to break away as her mother had ruined the life of her sister by sending her to her first dance in "a sort of tennis dress". Good form compelled her to use a pseudonym, M J Farrell, but it may also have been selfpreservation as she turned her devastating and razor sharp wit on her own back-

characters who might be de-scribed as Noel Coward noir, staple diet and sex a midnight

ground, creating a series of

Life's tapestry . . . Molly Keane's novels of the moneyed, hunting class are social testimonies recounted with relish her spoke of this and she vowed hugely witty and we became mother's bleak efforts at sex instruction. "There's a thing men do," she told her when she was 17, "and you won't like it." Molly's advice to her daughters, Sally and Vir-ginia, was different: "Bed is a friendly place."

Her own marriage, to a gen-tleman farmer, Bobby Keane, she described as "divinely happy," but it lasted only eight years and the rest of her life was shadowed by his sudden death at the age of 36. Molly took her two small daughters to live with relatives, where homesickness compounded her grief. She returned to her home in the Blackwater Valley in Co Wexford.

"I had the feeling that once I got home everything would be all right. But when I got inside the door, I knew the house had its own grief. It would not accept me without Bobby. The most ghastly experience was walking up the

never to write a memoir. "Too much pain, Any one else can say whatever they like after I'm gone."

After a long absence from

writing she first used her real name with her Booker shortlisted Good Behavlour - a black tale of nasty people with gorgeous manners. No one could believe that the author was a frail, exquisitely mannered old lady of 76. She disliked old age. "You suddenly discover, with great dis-may that there's no such thing as getting old. It only happens on the outside.
"Sometimes I get dres

up to go to a party and then I have to pass a mirror and I'm faced with this frightful vision. And you get lonely, but you don't let on. There's the fear, always, always, of the dreadful time when one won't be independent. I keep promising myself I'll get a deli-cious old queer to live in the basement. I have a good social

the most tremendous chums. People used to wonder why she married her husband who was nice but rather dull. She told me: 'Marriage is like a train. You just run and run until you catch one and then you sit inside your compartment and realise you're

In later years she was the friend and confidante of the late Russell Harty and she was the endlessly kind advocate of many younger writers. She disliked writing and fre-quently deprecated her talent, putting it down to being brought up as a protestant in Ireland. "All the protestants were poor and had big houses. We entertained a lot but we had poor food, bad wine and no heat. It was an absolute duty to be entertaining."

Asked what she believed to be the important things in life she said. "I have come to believe that the two strongest motivations in life are sex awfully believe in love." She was much loved and her death has left an incalculable gap in Irish life, letters and

Robert Hersant

Guarded past of a French press baron

OBERT HERSANT, who threatened because Mitter-rand's socialists intended to rand's socialists intended to curb newspaper ownership as press baron and passionate about spreading news. But he preferred to keep his own mo-tives secret.

Alain Peyrefitte, the former Gaullist minister and com-mentator in Hersant's flagship Le Figaro, wrote yester-day that, "this king of communications communicated very little. He did not detest surrounding his life with a halo of mystery. Even his words were broken up with long silences."

The one notable public appearance by this merchant navy skipper's son was a 1982 television interview. He wanted to moderate his farwanted to induce all his lat-right image in preparation for what became a costly, short-lived television channel part-nership with Italy's Silvio Berlusconi. He had led anti-semitic commandos, collaborated, received a 10-year sen-tence of national disgrace, and recruited French former Waffen SS members into his water 55 memoers into his newspaper group. He commented that "All those who know me a little are aware that I was the only Frenchman of my generation not to have been a resistance hero."

His extremism — an error of youth, he claimed — did not prevent him building up a most significant, 40-title press empire. It included France Soir and provincial dailles like Le Progrès and Le Deur like Le Progrès and Le Dau-phiné. He delighted in buying up post-Liberation newspapers that succeeded dis-credited wartime journals. His survival depended on an obses-sive professionalism and a net-work of backers which in-

cluded François Mitterrand. Figaro's editor, Franz-Oliv-ier Giesbert, said that Hersant, who admired Lord Bea verbrook, was above all a journalist, who considered himself a craftsman rather than a boss. He drew up his first newspaper layout aged 13 while at secondary school in Rouen, where he was prewar secretary general of the local young socialists. After demobilisation in

1940, Hersant declared his Pétainism in his newspaper, Jeune Front, and wrote for Au Pilori, one of the vilest col-laborationist anti-semitic publications. His fortune rested largely on the Auto Journal, which he created in 1850, and he escaped from political quar-antine when the socialist leader, Guy Mollet, asked him to take over the party's ailing Nord Matin in the same year. Today his group employs 8,000

million turnover. In 1961, expansion seemed

Birthdays

Shirley Temple Black, former child star and US ambas-sador, 68; The Most Rev Michael Bowen, Roman Catholic Archbishop of South-wark, 66; Bill Cotton, broadcaster, 68; Antony Craxton, pioneer of outside broadcasts, 78; J P Donleavy, author, 70; Barry Douglas, planist, 36; Harold French, actor, theatre and film director, 96; Air Vice-Marshall Tim Gar-den, commandant, Royal Col-lege of Defence Studies, 52; Victoria Glendinning, biog-rapher, 59; Sir Arnold Hall, aeronautical engineer, 81; Jane Jopling, UN official, 84; James Kirkup, travel writer. novelist and playwright, 73; Rowley Leigh, restaurateur, 46; Bernadette McAliskey, Irish civil rights campaigner, 49; Pierreluigi Martini, 49: Pierreluigi Martini, grand prix racing driver, 35; Tony Miles, chess player, 41; Ronald Neame, film producer and director, 85; Mike Smith, disc jockey, 41; George Steiner, linguistic philosopher and critic, 67; Ed Stewart, disc jockey, 55.

part of the new president's platform. Laws were passed but Hersant was untroubled. He benefited from Mitter-rand's unspoken protection as an anti-Gaullist ally. Earlier, Harsant was amnestied after a 1952 disqualification from the national assembly and was elected in 1956 as a candidate for a movement run by Mitterrand. In 1965, he helped finance his ally's first presidential campaign. Lat-terly Mitterrand was given exceptional space in Le Fiexceptional space in Le Figaro to respond to attacks.

Hersant was a deputy until 1978 and returned to the national assembly in 1986 representing the then president Valery Giscard d'Estaing's conservative. Union for conservative Union for conservative Union for French Democracy (UDF). From 1984 until his death he was a UDF MEP, and Simone Veil, the former European perliament speaker who led the list when Hersant was the list when Hersant was chosen, brushed off his collaborationist past by saying there were men who had done

Mitterrand's entourage. Hersant's failure to build a Murdoch-style media group

worse things under Vichy in



because of the collapse of the television channel tempered his ambitions in the last decade. His editors, left and right, said he left them com-plete editorial control. The sale of Auto Journal to the British group, Emap, in 1995 was a sign that the empire was crumbling, as circula-tions fell, debts grew to about £500 million and Hersant be-

came ill. In 1983, he told a journalist: "In truth, the press has al-ways been the domain of empire builders and they always finish by collapsing. I have no illusions — pothing is eternal." Hersant leaves a wife and eight children.

Robert Hersant pres born January 31, 1920; died April

21, 1996

Death Notices

STS. GRALIE, on April 20th, peacefully after a long lithese borne with great tortifluids, Cacris Grace widow of Darcie in Wersaw. Donations, if desired, to the Stroke Association, CHSA House, Landon ECTY, Enquires about a Memorial Service to Mudican, 01580 291214

rises about a Memorial Service to Hudson. 01580 221214

OLIMER, Leedle. On Thursday 18th April 1998. Prescribly and with great dignity in hospital aged 79 years. Destry befored humband of Phyllis Mutch loved dad ol Jean and Joan Wonderful grandad of Kinsty and Jonny. Loved Bather-In-Jew of Ken and Cortis and grain grand father-In-Jew of all the grand grand grands and Jonny. How will be easily missed by all his services of many who will be easily missed by all his services and Continually 28th April at 3.50pm. Inputries to Represent the property of the

MTo place your announcement relephone 9171 713 4567. Fer (171 713 4129.

Jackdaw

Corner, ends with the words,

"In that enchanted place on the top of the forest, a little

boy and his Bear will always

be playing". Christopher Robin Milne.



Photo op

AND the editor spoke and he said that the art department should bring forth a photographic image of the Son of God, so that Time magazine would look better than Newsweek when it appeared in the magazine kiosks of Sodom and Gomorran, New York and Chicago. London and Rome. But the art department knew not which way to turn, for the Son of God had not signed up with any of their usual model agencies. Deirdre Dolan takes up the story in The New York Observer: Then Pamela Jenrette, a Time make-up artist, spoke up. She had this friend, she said, who

"HE fourth of A A Milne's | longer than the contentment | The fourth of A A Milne's Christopher Robin books, The House at Pooh that enchanted place on top of the forest, a little and his Bear will always playing".

Thristopher Robin Milne, to has just died at 75, told in a Carrelian interview. who has just died at 75, told

resemblance to Jesus." She

"spiritual quality" ("You know how some men have a

scent, but it's nice?") and "a

sweetness around the mouth

lose." He was off in Australia,

as it turned out, wandering the desert. And, eerily, he used to be a bartender at

Tatou, where, Christlike, he

served the multitudes. When Ms Jenrette reached

the former bartender (whom

the chosen one. "That's so weird." he said. "My mom's

name is Mary!"
He flew to New York that
night for a meeting that

formality; everyone agreed he was the one. "He even acts like

you would expect Christ to

act," Ms Jenrette recalled. "He's got this incredible

posture and he moves real

slow, never hurried. He just

kind of floats. He's real self-

talkative. He's all of a piece,

contained and not really

you know. Sometimes cowboys live that way."

turned out to be a mere

men call "Scot Hull") in Australia, he was thrilled to be

particularly recalled his



family and in the Devon and with has just died at 75, told by the sound of the A A Miles and in the Devon and me in a Guardian interview industry, from which he did nearly 50 years later, "it's not benefit. However, Christopher Robin Milne grew up the idyil, passed on by into a judicious, balanced man who reached a truce man who reached a truce with his legacy. He found his and children, had lasted no own enchanted places in his country. Though he looked

... There was, however, one obvious obstacle: His hair was

an unholy mess. "Tm thinking, Jesus is Syrian. It's not like he's going to have this straight, dead hair," Ms

Jenrette said. Her solution

-a curling iron, deftly

spoke of Christian simplicity

applied to supply necessary texture. His goatee said "East Village" more than "East

Jerusalem," and so, strand by

strand, she constructed a full

Photographer Gregory Heisler shot Mr Hull for seven

Rowalski T-shirt (that they rejected because "it looked too

much like a Gap ad") to a suit of chain mail. They settled on

a white, frayed muslin shirt Mr Hull owned from a

Jenrette suggested be "fan around Little Italy" on Easter Sunday in his *Hamlet* shirt,

production of Hamlet. Ms

that "it would be like the

Second Coming in a way."

JANET Paddock and Alfred

Stephens discovered the new

Neighbourly

hours in a variety of outfits

from a faded black Stanley

beard.



imaginary: there was no idvllic childhood

queasy if asked to discuss them, the Christopher Robin titles were prominent on his them, the Christopher Robin titles were prominent on his shelves. He autographed them if you donated £10 to the Save the Children fund.

Milne was four when he first appeared in print: Service. He built bridges, de-

relationship between telephoto photography and community the hard way when they moved into a small Florida condominium

afternoon, they arrived home early and made love on the

ground floor of their condo. In

the heat of passion, they left the window-blind open,

permitting a neighbour to secretly videotape the entire incident withat elephoto

arrested the couple on felony

charges of lewd and lascivious conduct in front of

a child. (Apparently some

the condominium's pool

area, but in actuality, the

youngsters might have been able to see the incident from

children didn't take the time to look.) Publicity followed

recriminations, jobs were

forsaken. Two weeks after the arraignment, Janet

check, it seems people the

Paddock attempted suicide. With the communist threat in

lost, and community

zoom. The neighbour took the

tape to the police who

complex with communal

swimming pool. One

They're changing the Guard | fused bombs and survived a of Buckingham Palace — | blast of shrapnel in the head Christopher Robin went down with Alice... More lethal when boarding Post-war he was still world-famous, but virtually unemployable. "It seemed to me almost that my father had got where he was by climbing on my infant shoulders, that he had filched from me my good name and left me nothing but school bullies read it was: Little boy kneels at the foot

Droops on the little hands litile golden hend Hush! Hush! Whisper who

dares! Christopher Robin is saying his prayers.
"It has brought me over the

"It has brought me over the years more be-curling, fist-clenching, lip-biting embarrassment than any other." Milne later wrote. "My father needed me to escape from being 50. His heart remained buttoned up all his life."

equipping their own secret governments to make the

world safe for community.

Vince Leo on the politics of the telephoto lens in frieze.

Heavenly body

"24 Hours with Cindy". By

Top Model has special pages devoted to Cindy Crawford, the Story of a Star. In includes

Howdy neighbour!

He is survived by Lesley and their daughter, who has cere-bral palsy. He used to build

John Ezard

special furniture for her.

Christopher Robin Milne, retired bookseller, born August 21, 1920; died April 20, 1996

name and left me nothing but empty fame," he wrote. Fearing this bitterness, he fied to Dartmouth in 1951. There he came to feel the name was a blessing as well as a curse. But he refused all invitations to revisit his bear,

Pooh, who is in a New York publisher's showcase.

energy thinking about them dying. Think about them being with you in the future. Your friends may be in need

for safer sex, or they internalised the dominant

12pm . . . Cindy has always loved flowers, especially orchids. That's why she wanted to make a detour by the market to see the greenhouse where the rare species are kept. Divinely egant in a black pantsuit, Cindy attracts everyone's attention. So who is her favorite designer? God, she says. "Because He created our bodily appearance!"

Positive advice

IF I had to give advice on Aids based on my experience, I'd say to HIV people with HIV+friends—you should not spend your time and

of a reason to stick around, and you may be it. To HIVpeople who are having unsafi sex, you should ask yourself why. There are reasons why people have unsafe sex; they don't know how to negotiate

cultural hatred of gays and



protection, or they have internalised commercial gay culture and don't want to live past 35 (which would make them "over the bill"). You have reasons but no As for HIV+folks, I don't

know what to tell ya. I've just come to the conclusion that I know a lot of cool people and want to stay to be with them. I looked into the future and decided that I want to be there. I'm not thinking about death, and prefer to have people in my life who don't think I'm going to die tomorrow. Given a choice, that is basically all I'd ever say on the issue. Pedro Angel Serrano, 36. writing about being HIV+ in Outpunk.

On the board IF YOU think what is

involved in skateboarding: music, bodystyle, interclass relations (though we may dispute whether there are inter-gender and inter-racial constellations), I don't think there is anything in it that makes it exclusively white,

or male . . . It's concerned with your own engagement with your environment, but it's all framed in an atmosphere of cynicism, it's a critical practice. My utopian, idealistic image of what urban living should be like is that everyone should be a skateboarder. I mean that mattabasis. that metaphorically.

I mean that everyone should have a set of practices

should have a set of practices which engage themselves in how they deal with their own identity, their own sexuality, with their own relations to the world around them. However the fuck they do it, they do it. That's what the world should be. Ian Borden, lecturer in architecture and skateboarder. performing something like an intellectual "backside aerial"

in Dazed & Confused. Jackdow wonts your jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian. co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London ECIR 3ER.

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Tunnel faces up to deluge of debt, page 12

Euro Disney cuts losses, page 12

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian



Weaver Brian Trevis, creeks the bobbins on a gripper loom at the 300-year-old Wilton Carpet Factory, which is celebrating its first year as a private co tional wanted to close the Wiltshire factory, but managers negotiated a lease with site owners Coats Viyella while valsing purchase money

Bell merger causes fury

Rivals protest at creation of new phone giant

HE \$24 billion (216 billion) Nynex and er came under immediate attack yes-terday from rivals MCI and AT&T, with calls for investigations from the United States Justice Department and Rederal Communications

be attained if existing monopolies simply combine into larger ones." AT&T said. "The merger will deny customers the benefits of head-to-MCI, for its part, urged the US Justice Department and

terday morning. AT&T and MCL where British Telecom Commission to examine the deal to ensure that it did not has a 20 per cent stake, lost little time in criticising the go against the open markets envisaged by Congress. It exeared to be a growing trend In combining forces, Bell Atlantic and Nynex stand to towards consolidation of the regional phone companies' monopoly power. take one of the most lucrative long distance markets in

cover a vast swath of the east-ern US; stretching from America away from the established long-distance compa-Maine to Virginia, an area ennies, AT&T, MCI, and Sprint. Commission.

A plaintive statement from AT&T, which is splitting it munications group in the US after AT&T, was unveiled yes.

Ines, A1&T, and Sprint.

A plaintive statement from compassing 12 states and 38 million customers. The catchmunications group in the US trayed its nervousness at the plum markets of New York after AT&T, was unveiled yes.

mew, stronger Bell Atlantic: major population centres, "It's hard to see how new such as Boston and Philadelompetition promised by the phia. The combined firm, to have a stock-market value of \$51 billion (£34 billion) — the same size as BT and C&W, should they merge — with annual sales of \$27 billion and

> Geographic proximity will be an enormous advantage as Bell Atlantic and Nynex ex-pand into the long distance market. By modifying the software in their existing net-works, the two companies could have immediate access to a potentially huge long-dis-

regional phone companies'
monopoly power.

The new company will
see in the two companies' territories. By merging, they have a good chance of capturing many of those calls. It would also allow the two com-panies to combine their long million customers. The cause ment area would include the distance marketing envisor, one of the biggest costs in the long distance business.

competitive grounds. "There's plenty of competi-tion about. This is an opportunity to move into video and long distance. We believe we will create much more choice

The unions also voiced their opposition to the Bell Atlantic Nynex deal. "Neither consumers nor workers will be well served by a merger," said Jan Pierce, vice presi-dent of the Communications it tide two c will oppose the merger with every resource available to us." About 2,000 to 3,000 employees, mostly managers in overlapping functions, are expected to lose their jobs.

But Mr Seidenberg said the
3.000 job reductions expected

US history after the \$25 billion acquisition of RJR Nabsico by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts in 1989, the Bell At-lantic-Nynex share swap deal and SBC in Texas, earlier this month. Should these two mergers be approved by the US government, the seven Baby Bells created by the break-up of the old AT&T will

Congress in February, The new law, revamping 60 years of legislation, allows all the players — cable, long distance and local phone companies to compete directly with each no longer enjoy a monopoly in their areas. From now on, from the merger with Bell At-lantic do not include any pany can enter the market as

time before making a possible hostile £8 billion-plus bid.

regional power group it al-

ready owns, to calm fears of reduced competition.

Some City observers ex-

pressed surprise at the price National Power has had to pay to win new agreement for

a merger with Southern, with its bid widely seen to be

pitched at a healthy premium of up to £200 million.

done better on Friday in sealing a £1.7 billion deal to sell off power stations to Hanson.

One benefit is that National Power will enjoy tax-free lease income on the three stations for seven years.

Others noted that it had

the Bank of England in the money supply can be looked at in two ways. Scepsecond interim dividend of 26.3p a share in lieu of a final dividend. There is a loan note tics might argue that the au-America's Southern Comthorities have only rediscovered money because they see it as a useful weapon with pany, which last week exseed its interest in huving which to beat the Chancellor National Power, was said to be surprised at its target's hasty move but biding its at monthly meetings. The purists would say that the money supply, as measured by M4, has been sending out danger signals for some time and it is time for the authori-National Power, the US group is believed ready to sell South Western Electricity, the

hand The March money sup-ply data show that broad money, which includes money on deposit at the

City's Darling points the way



Edited by Alex Brummer

Notebook

criticism of Labour for its failure to spell out precisely what it means by stakeholding. In the Spring ployee — and the secondary stakeholders, who include the

nstitutions, who control some 50 per cent of UK equities, as govern "whether individual companies prosper or fail". They can do this in two ways: by acting as insiders (thus encouraging change for the better) or voting with their feet by selling stakes. Mr the more useful model and would seek to underpin it by prevents companies from sharing confidential data with

their biggest shareholders for fear of falling foul of the in-sider trading policemen. He would propose giving employees a bigger role in public companies by means of increasing employee share ownership. There already are quite useful tax benefits for such ownership, but as a concept it has not really gained a strong foothold in Britain. This is in contrast to the US abanies su

United Airman have taken it all the way. United Airlines and Avis of that success, in the Labour view, will be the corporate tax regime. There are clear indications from Mr Darling that, under Labour control, corporate Britain would be provided with the incentives to invest absence of investment has perhaps been the most disappointing aspect of this business expansion.

Money alert

The latter argument is

banks and building societies, has now been above the authorities 3-9 per cent monitoring range for five months in a row. With each successive month it has been possible to come up with special factors which have pushed M4 higher, in the latest month it was the expansion of the still litthe expansion of the still lit tle-understood gilt repo mar-ket and the £1.75 billion borrowing by Granada to finance its contested purchase of Forte. But as UBS has noted the excuse of special factors is

the excuse of special factors is starting to wear thin.

Certainly, the economy is starting to enter the dangerous phase of the economic and political cycle. Productive expansion, faciled by a strong export sector, has slackened off. In its place, consumption is constant to ife. This will be supported by income tax and mortgage rate

of this means that we could be at the start of a boom-bust ernor, Eddie George — as has become his style — still has the confidence to take on the Chancellor in the run-up to a

Market myth

admiringly on the UK economy and particularly its privatised utilities. Here competition would deliver choice and low prices for enthusias-

The angry outpourings of John Redwood at the weeksick. He complains that the electricity industry is being reshaped in a way that will allow a few giants to carve up market like the good old monopolists they really are.

fused. Any assessment of Britain's experience shows con-Why has BT so successfully clung to more than 90 per cent of its market 12 years after it was forced to face competi-tion? The ads may say wel-come back. But few punters actually went away.

And, as we report on page 18 today, it is a safe bet that the same will apply in the South-west when the Government next week launches its experiment in gas competi-tion despite offers of 25 per cent cuts in gas bills.

That too is a motive behind National Power's £2.5 billion hid for Southern Electric widely regarded as being at a juicy premium of at least £150 million. It is driving Power-Gen's desire to close in again on Midlands. And the South-ern Co of Atlanta, Georgia, wants to buy National Power for the same reason.

Trade Secretary Ian Lang has to decide whether to let this restructuring happen. He may say no and win a slap on But the chances are he will say yes. In an election year, his main interest is trading on competition rather than sort-

House market

hopes dashed

Richard Thomas

OPES of a spring revival in the housing market were damped yesterday by figures showing a fall in property sales last month and weaker-than-expected demand for home loans.
Despite evidence of rising

prices, data from the Inland Revenue show buyers reluctant to commit to a new home, with seasonally adjusted sales of 89,000 in March - down upturn in the next quarter." from 91,000 the previous month and 97,000 in January. Rising values have pushed up the sums building societies are lending, but the pick-up is smaller than at the corresponding point last year,

according to figures released

Net new advances totalied £1,032 million last month, up from £603 million in February but below the £1.067 billion of the previous March. Lenders are now pinning their hopes on a resurgence in confidence on the back of this month's tax cut and lower pase rates. The BSA's Peter Williams said: "The market has stabi

yesterday by the Building Societies Association.

the expectation of a modest The odds on the Chancellor seizing on last week's cut in German interest rates as a justification for dropping the cost of borrowing from its present 6 per cent widened after the Bank of England reported strong money supply growth.

TOURIST NATES - BANK SELLS Australia 1.8840 France 7.50
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1,300 jobs at risk as Power Store pleads with creditors

Southern Electric chiefs in line for £2m bonus

explaining the company's plight, chairman Clive Vlotman blames

some of its problems on "the enforced

and unbudgeted relocation of the Normanton head office" which fol-

lowed Yorkshire Electricity's deci-

sion last autumn to give Power Store

The move "had an adverse effect on the financial and administrative fab-ric of the company at a critical time",

These problems added to difficult

trading conditions experienced

thhroughout the industry and resulted in Power Store writing to suppliers on Friday telling them that on April 12 it applied for the appoint-

six weeks' notice to quit its offices.

Dwath Nobcei

executive pay and perks erupted last night when it emerged that five Southern Electric directors stand to make more than £2 million from shares and options if National Power's £2.5 billion agreed bid for the regional electricity company

goes ahead. With trade and industry secretary Ian Lang set to announce his decision as early as today on whether to allow the takeover, National Power sought to preempt his deci-sion by offering 960p for each

The offer values equity held by Southern's four executive directors and the part-time chairman at £1.8 million. Options and shares held under the power distributor's incentive scheme would be

worth another £459,897. Chief executive Henry Casley alone will make £912,601.

POWER Store, the struggling elec-trical retailer created from former electricity board showrooms was last night locked in talks with creditors in a bid to avoid the ap-pointment of administrators which would threaten 1,300 jobs.

The company will aunounce tomor-row whether it has been able to reach an informal agreement with its credi-tors. If not, a High Court hearing on Monday, will approve the appoint-ment of administrators from the accountaincy firm Arthur Andersen.
In a confidential letter to suppliers

market power game".

£8.75, and after the market close chief executive Malcolm Southern's shares rose 32p | Chatwin predicted that it was

Labour. Energy spokesman the City as the harbinger of John Battle said there was mew takeovers. Shares in one of only four regional companies while "electricity consumers are little more than an afterthought in the 28.75, and after the market power game" the consumers are little more than an afterthought in the 28.75, and after the market power game."

The City as the harbinger of prenew its bid for Midlands if Mr Lang clears the generating.

Mr Lang clears the generating.

Mr Lang clears the generating.

He said criticism of the power generators for seeking to create companies with capeting thought to recommend clear. Commission that is widely thought to recommend clearance with conditions.

will make £912,601.

The windfall gains, which come on top of last year's boardroom remuneration of £974,000, were condemned by

Southern's snares rose sap character that it was "mare likely than less" that the cumpany would be in westors were uneasy about what Mr Lang would decide.

The bid was welcomed in the cumpany would be in merger talks within a year.

National Power's smaller rival Power's smaller rival PowerGen, is poised to of the Government in its

tive consumers was spurious, noting that National Power's share of the market had fallen

ment of administrators "to protect the interests of the business and the

Mr Vlotman has asked for suppli

ers' support in continuing to deliver

products so that the shops can con-timue trading. Funds are being placed

in a special account so that these sup-

plies will be paid for.
The company operates 16 Power

Store superstores, acquired from LEB three years ago, and 70 shops in York-shire and the East Midlands, bought

for £7 million from Homepower, the

joint venture between the electricity companies in those two regions. It

also has a joint venture with German computer retailer Vobis.

from 46 per cent to 20-25 per cent following the disposal of 4,000MW of plant agreed with Hanson's Eastern Group. Under the offer, Southern

We won't bail you out, Clarke tells markets | Lloyd's seeks £31m mortgage for '1958 building'

HE Chancellor of the Ex-chequer, Kenneth Clarke, and the Governor of the Bank of England, Eddie George, warned the markets last night that they would not be bailed out of bad loans made to governor at a markets as a markets. ernments of emerging economies in the event of another Mexican-style collapse.

Mr Clarke told the policy-making committee of the International Monetary Fund in Washington that commercial lenders should develop their own mechanisms for dealing with sovereign liquidity cri-ses. He said: "Immunity from default creates the wrong in centives for private sector creditors; and it means that the risks and costs of resolu-

the debtor country and the official community alone."

The move could increase the burden of debt on some of the world's most vulnerable economies, because it sug-gests that the markets might exact a risk premium. That would reduce the value of bonds and would force a country to issue more bonds to raise the required amountof funding.

of funding
Mr Clarke, however, welcomed a report published after yesterday's G10 meeting (made up of senior officials representing the G7 nations and other industrial countries) which warned that holders of private sector debt should not work on the assessmention that their debt was supplied that their debt was the prevention far sacrosanct, After the Mexican cure were needed.

tion of any crisis are borne by | collapse private creditors were repaid in full and

They [the markets] should consider developing means to enable them to renegotiate payment terms in the event of a liquidity crisis," the Chancellor said Mr George said: "There is

no question of the G10

countries leading the way on this. We look to the private sector to carry it forward."

UK officials said the Chancellor was keen to dispel any impression that investing in government bonds was safe money, particularly in the light of a raft of IMP reforms designed to prevent another Mexican-style crisis and to improve rescue measures if the prevention failed and a

LOYD'S of London is try Ling to arrange a £31 mil-lion mortgage on the build-ing in Lime Street which formerly housed its under writing room, property and banking sources have

revealed.
Lloyd's, which has recently lost £11 billion, is trying desperately to raise extra cash to fined a certic-ment offer of more than 23 billion for its lossstricken Names. Several UK and European

banks are understood to have been asked if they would be interested in lending Lloyd's around £31 million in a mortgage deal on the property, known as the to banks for a mortgage £33 billion.

one banker, who asked not to be named, said he had been given a "hard sell" by a Lloyd's intermediary who had wanted his bank to agree to a £31 million mortgage.

This particular bank de-clined, because it judged the building, which inunderwriting room, as 'awkward" space which would require extensive costly refurbishment before it could be used as a

very positive." He said the building had a book value of £31 million.

Lloyd's moved its under-writing operation across Lime Street to the modern Sir Richard Rogers-designed building in 1986. But the 1958 building continues to house several Lloyd's departments, such as regulation and claims, as well as the catering operation, and a fitness centre. If the mortgage can be arranged swiftly it would belp relax the financial

modern office. The building is divided by a private road it tries to finalise the middle.

Building

**Buildin

eats the

Tunnel faces up to its deluge of debt

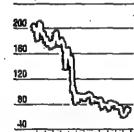
OUTLOOK/IAN KING on a bottomiess pit swallowing up £2m a day in interest charges



EUROTUNNEL

Stock market	value E	822 m .
Share price		-41/2p
Worldores		2,991
interest cove	r	N/A
FULL YEAR	£	%
1		obenge
Sales	299m	576

Share price Pence, 1995/96.



just announced one of the worst losses in corporate history. man Sir Alastair Morton looked pretty chipper yester-day. So much so that one ai-most expected him to burst into a chorus of Always Look on the Bright Side of Life. Not only did Eurotumel

notch up a £925 million aftertax loss for 1995, but the company is groaning under a debt mountain of £8.9 billion, and is running up interest esti-mated at £2 million a day. At the same time, problems

continue to mount up. Eurotunnel's 226 bankers agreed to freeze the compa September — have yet to thrash out how that debt will sist of calls for Sir Alastair's instance, the company has head, and Eurotunnel's long suffering 730,000 small shareholders, five out of six of and 41 per cent of the passen-whom are French, have still ger market, and is stiracting to receive a single centime in

dividends.

The Channel ferry operators are proving doughtier opponents than expected, slashing fares to retain market share, and refusing to make the cuts in services which Sir Alastair believes are just a This, along with the effects

of the French rail strike, ant that the passenger and freight figures announced vere not as good as the half-year stage.

To cap it all, Eurotunnel

public relations disasters not all of its own making such as the train which broke down in the tunnel recently. leaving shivering passengers But Sir Alastair, looking on

the bright side, points to some



of the better news in Eurotun-nel's latest results. For annual shareholder meeting, instance, the company has grabbed a 47 per cent share of tunnel's debts fixed, the com-ment yesterday was a stategrabbed a 47 per cent share of the Channel freight market more business all the time The trading figures for the first three months of 1996 are twice those of the correspond-ing period last year, with al-most a million passengers travelling on Eurostar, while s record 50,000 used the service on Easier Saturday.

More good news is prom-ised: "more grief" for the fer-ries this summer, a potentially lucrative fibre-optic cable link through the tunnel, further cost reductions and, in due course, a high-speed rail link on the English side, operated by London & Conti-

The big question concerns Eurotunnel's debts. Sir Alastair was coy yesterday on when he expected to reach agreement with the bankers. crete is expected at least until pany is alarmingly exposed to any upturn in interest rates. Under the terms of the standstill arrangement, agreement

must be reached this year.

Despite Sir Alastair's protests to the contrary, a "debt for equity" swap — where bankers exchange some of their debts for a stake in the company - still looks the likeliest way of achieving a breakthrough, particularly given Eurotunnel's desperate need to flx borrowing rates.

Sir Alastair's dilemma is that, apart from enraging Eurotunnel's small sharemake him the employee of the very bankers he now claims to be standing up to, weakening his own position.
It was not surprising that

he yesterday said a debt-for-equity swap "in the tradi-tional Anglo-Sazon sense of the creditor takes all" was not on the table at all.

Behind this, Sir Alastair

Euro Disney cuts losses

theme park operator, reported yesterday a 30 per cent decrease to 169 million francs (£23 million) in its losses for the opening half of the year despite having to restart repayments

Before taking into accharges, the theme park recorded its first six-month profit. The improvement is attributed to higher attendances following the reduction in entrance fees, cou-pled with better occupancy rates at its hotels.

Analysts are now predict-

ing that 11.5 million people will visit Disneyland Paris in the current year, com-pared with 10.8 million last year, Roughly 500,000 of this figure is attributed to the draw of the £100 mil-lion Space Mountain ride. Euro Disney is also thought to have substantially increased the occupancy rate at its hotels, which charge between £30 and £200 a night for a fam-ily room. Although the company reveals no details, analysts estimate the group achieved a 68 per cent occupancy compared with the Paris average of 60.

Revenues for the theme park, which charges an en-trance fee of about £20, rose by 11 per cent in the first half to 910 million francs. d visitor numbers offset the reduction in entrance prices introduced last summer. Tocome from the hotels rose by 17 per cent to 019 million francs.

The problem for Euro Disney is the gradual reintroduction of interest and management charges, which rose to 288 million francs from 214 million francs the year before. The standstill agree

on about 15 billion francs of debt ends this year, and a freeze on royalty payment to Walt Disney ceases in 1998. The theme park will then have to pay an extra 800 million francs a year. The park will also have to-

ment that Eurotunnel "would

have to assess the conditions under which the group would

be able to continue trading if the standstill is ended before contemplate introducing another mega-ride to keep visitors happy. All this, ac-cording to analysts at Pari-All of this is good news for consumers, who can look for-ward to another price war on the high seas this summer, but will give little succour to Eurotumel shareholders. For bas Capital Markets, means that Euro Disney needs to increase revenues by about them, the investment is more or less dead money. 50 per cent to justify its

News in brief

Unit trust sales climb over £1bn

UNIT trust sales last month hit a record high of more than £1 billion. The sale of Personal Equity Plans, up by £990 million. was boosted by private investors rushing to meet the year's tax

concessions deadline.

Funds under management rose to £121 billion, and the number of accounts jumped by 230,000 to more than seven million, the biggest monthly rise for nearly two years.

Philip Warland, director general of the Association of Unit Philip Warland, director general of the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds, believes that money is still being retained in building society savings accounts to maximise conversion payouts. He was optimistic about the income from maturing Tessas, saying "when that money is released and seeks higher returns, the flows into unit trusts will rise again." — Cliff Jones

WPP revenue rises 13pc

WPP, the world's largest advertising company, pushed its first-quarter revenue up by more than 13 per cent to £390.4 million, finanks to strong growth in its Asian, Latin American, African and North American advertising markets. Virtually none of the revenue growth came from acquisitions.

WPP, the London-based parent of advertising agencies J. Walter Thompson and Ogilvy & Mather Worldwide, said the UK was hit by a slowdown from the "unsustainably high levels of growth experienced in the first quarter last year".

experienced in the first quarter last year".

It was ahead of budget, with improvement in all four marketing services sectors: media advertising, market research, public relations and specialist communications. — Tony May

LIG's £46m purchase

LONDON International Group, the world's biggest condom maker, has agreed to buy Aladan Corp, a US-based medical glove and condom company, for \$46 million, Aladan is the US market leader in the medical examination glove field, with 13 per cent of

More adopting ethics

ALMOST half of Britain's largest businesses have adopted or are preparing to adopt a code of ethics. The Institute of Business Ethics reports today that 203 of the largest 500 companies already have a code. This is a substantial increase since the institute's first survey in 1987, when ethical codes existed in less than a fifth of companies. — Roger Code

Unitever switches fish-oil

FOOD, detergent and cosmetics company Unilever announce yesterday that it had ceased using fish-oil derived from industrial fishing in European waters. The decision follows the group's alliance with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), which will establish a Marine Stewardship Council to work for sustainable fishing. Unilever said that replacing fish-oil in Europe would cost 28-10 million.—Rnow Come 98-10 million. — Roger Cowe

Premier ups payout

PREMIER Farnell, the electronics distributor created from the controversial £1.8 billion acquisition of the US group Premier Industrial by Yorkshire-based Farnell, yesterday reported 1995 pre-tax profits of £75 million on sales of £527 million. The dividend has been increased by a fifth to 10.8p per share. Since the acquisition of Premier was not completed until April 11 it is not reflected in the results. — Roger Come

Enter the dragon

As the handover to Chinese rule in Hong Kong approaches, the Quardian Finance team's comprehensive reports on the prospects for the colony are now available in booklet form for \$2.50 including postage and packing. Please write anciosing cheque or postal order, payable to Quardian Newspapers to: Enter the Dragon offer, City Office, the Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, LONDON EC1 3ER

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£281m gift for private railway operators

Kelti: Hurper Transport Editor

HE first six private rail franchises have received £281 million from the Government to operate in their set-

esterday. As the Midland main line passed into the ownership of National Express for "a nominal consideration", the rail franchise director's office announced that the £381 million subsidy was cheaper than British Rail's forecast of £336 million for the same period. Roger Salmon, the franchis-ing director, said National

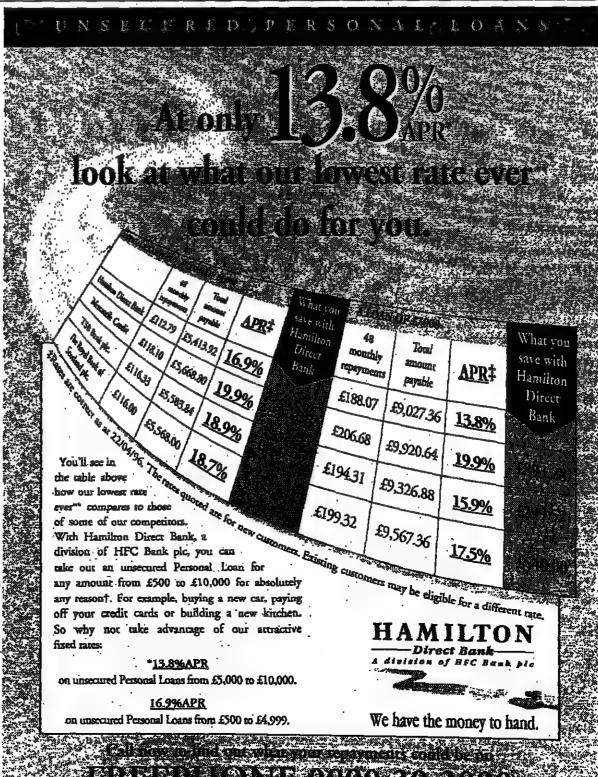
Express had secured a 10-year franchise for the route, subject to contracts for new trains by 1999. The company plans to introduce 12 new die sels and to open a new station

north of Loughborough.
This should mean 22 new trains a day from London to Leicester, and 10 more be-tween London and Derby and London and Nottingham. The company plans to offer free tea and coffee and to improve

National Express will receive a £16.5 million subsidy from Mr Salmon, but the subsidies will cease by the year 2000, and by 2006 the company will be paying the franchise director £10 million a year to run its service. The franchise complements the Gatwick Express line which National Express won earlier this month.

Adam Mills, the company

he looked forward to develop ing patronage on the line, and to taking traffic off the M1. The line operates from Lon-Nottingham, Sheffield and



Hi-tech detection beats the dopers

Chris Hawkins

ACING is winning its battle against the criminals with the chemistry sets. Less than 2 per cent of all horses tested for drugs last year returned a positive sample — 14 out of 7,277.

in 1994, so it seems that significant advances have been made since Britain, France and Ireland pooled their resources to deter the dopers.
"We are confident that as

the chances of detection are better than ever so the deterrent is stronger than ever," said Christopher Foster, chairman of the European Horserace Scientific Liaison

"I wouldn't like to be so rash as to say the game is cleaner than it's ever been, but the likelihood of the doper succeeding is smaller than it less thas even been," he added.

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maintaining this vital integrity service, so important to win the confidence of puniers overrated. and owners, is over £2 million

a year and Britain is devoting proportionately more than any other country in Europe. Yet this level of investment is a mere drop in the ocean compared to the money being spent worldwide on develop-ing new drugs, an amount es-timated at between £15 and £20 billion per amoun.

Virtually all this research is for legitimate, medical purposes, but there are spin-offs which can be exploited by the less ethically inclined, and keeping one step ahead, or at least in step, is a daunting task for the analysis.

But Professor Bob Smith, the pharmacologist on the British Horserace Scientific Committee, is westly sure that Virtually all this research

Committee, is pretty sure that the "goodies" are matching strides. "We can cope with more or

less anything thrown at us these days," he said. "A lot

Feathered Gale going for Gold

victory in the Whitbread Gold Cup, last big chase of the jumps season, at Sandown on Saturday, writes

With no penalty and the pring sure to be in his favour, Arthur Moore's mine-year-old deserves to start favourite. He has been raised 91b by the Irish handicapper, but will meet Saturday's top weight Jo-dami on 2lb better terms having beaten him eight lengths in Ireland.

EATHERED GALE is 5-1 | The Thresher Classic with Hill's to follow up Trial, which follows the his Irish Grand National Whitbread, could provide Derby clues. Entries in-clude Henry Cecil's Silver Dome and the Royal Lodge

Stakes winner, Mons.
David Loder yesterday
confirmed that Blue Duster
will miss the 1,000 Guineas.
But he denied that she has failed to train on and pointed to the recurrence of a back problem which trou-bled the filly last season. Ladbrokes now bet 5-2 on

Bosra Sham and have removed A Votre Sante from their ante-post list.

"Detection technology has come on by leaps and bounds, but we must not get compla-cent and ensure that we keep up our guard — you can be sure that wherever there is big money involved people are constantly trying something new."
To this effect, Germany and

Italy are to be invited to join the European Committee so that the same standards apply throughout all the major racing countries on the conti-nent and more brains can be

focused on the problems.

The involvement of the United States is the ultimate alm. But while co-operation between scientists and analysts on both sides of the Atlantic takes place there is a fundamental difference in attitude towards medication for In certain states horses

race as a matter of course with drugs in their system to prevent the breaking of blood vessels and to reduce pain.
This divergence of views
over what is permissable is

over what is permissante is an insurmountable problem and, try as they might, no beadway is being made to bring the two camps together. There have been many advances, not only in technology but in modes of thinking. For instance, mandatory counter-analysis of positive samples has now become standard practice — some-thing prompted by the contro-versial Allysa case and the Aga Khan's battle with the

Jockey Club. Mistakes have been made but lessons have been learned and the efficiency of testing now gives far less cause for



Stoop to conquer . . . Mike Lalor hip-checks Mertin Ulrich of Austria during the United States' 5-1 win in the world ice hockey champlonship in Vienna yesterday

American Football

Monarchs sack Hammond after record defeat

Michael Carteon

HE London Monarchs who suffered their worst defeat when they lost 37-3 in Frankfurt on Saturday, yesterday fired their head coach Bobby Hammond, 0-2 this sea-

Hammond, 0-2 this season and 4-8 for his career.
will take a player-personnel job with the World
League office in New York
while he looks for an NFL
job. He is replaced by the
Monarchs offensive coordinator Lionel Taylor, whose
first game in charge will be
on Saturday in Dusseldorf,
who are also without a win.

on Saturday in Dusseldorf, who are also without a win. "London's fans demand a winning team," said Gareth Moores, general manager of the Monarchs. "Faced with a disappointing start we felt a fresh face and different direction were needed."

The seeds of Hammond's

dismissal were sown last week when the Monarchs blew a 21-7 half-time lead in losing at home to the Claymores. In the final minutes of regulation time Hammond's indecision over play-calling cost the Monarchs a penalty and an

monarcas a penaity and an immeessary time-out.

After the game the running back Tony Vinson, allocated by the NFL's Atlanta Falcons, left the team complaining about his misuse in the Monarchs' system while the likebacker. tem, while the linebacker Ivan Caesar was released for disciplinary reasons after a reported showdown with the coach.



Monarchs all over the Waldstadion, William 'the Refrigerator' Perry spent most of the game on the

most of the game on the bench. Reports from players sug-gested a personality clash with Hammond, whose good relationship with Perry had helped bring him to London in the first place. Hammond's conflicts ap-peared to extend beyond the players to the coaching staff. He and his assistants were often on different pages, literally, as play sheets drawn up for prac-tice would be abandoned and then reinserted in the heat of a game.

Taylor was bead coach at Texas Southern University for four years and has 14 years' experience as an NFL assistant. He was a star receiver in the early days of the American Foot-ball League. Like many But losing so heavily in WLAF players he was cast Frankfurt was the last straw. While Frankfurt's stardom with the Denver offensive line pushed the Broncos.

Pontefract runners and riders with form

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2.30 (SF edipolo) 1, aPCSLO MEDI, Candy Morris (S-1); 2, APCSLO MEDIS, Candy Morris (S-1); 2, APCSLO MEDIS, CANDY SPINARY BEARS (S-4); 124.) 3-4 it tay Gligo-leguick Gaff, 6 ran. Hd. N. (A Moora) Toles CA.TO, C1.70, E2.30. Out in 225.80; CSP. ST. ST.

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140- EVELTARA (2007) 6 Wrogg 4-9-3
20070- SAMMA SHARPLY (1778) (D) A Mide 5-6-7
08108- RORY (1829) (D) bits J Cool 5-6-4
2215-0 TOUCH A MILLION (18) (D) 6 Desiro 4-8-4
08264-0 WESTERN (2010) (D) 10 Desiro 16-8-4
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22610-1 MASTER CHARTER (19) bits J Facesdon 4-8
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20-0252 JHMOLE (1773) (D) D Nortis 5-8-7
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4.50 LEVY SOARD MANDROAP 2m 17 EA,013

801 900-05 SYSEZO MEPO (17) N Literates 4-70-0

802 54400-6 JEDICAL FRED (17) N Tables 7-8-6

804 906-62 NORDOO SSE (803) Loyd-Lates 8-6-6

805 LVC100-SEAD (1903) LTWis p-9-1

805 25700 SHADYR (11) N Holtzahad 5-9-10

807 0714-2 NOVAM (20) D Notes 5-8-6

806 25700-SHADYR (11) N Holtzahad 5-9-10

807 0714-2 NOVAM (20) D Notes 5-8-6

808 26-65 TERRESESSE (17) Hits 6-8-7

809 2003-SLUUD (187) Mr. J Parament 4-5-3

810 2004-50 NOVAM SEC (11) Lates 5-7-1

811 2041 CHEST (11) Holtz 5-7-2

812 000-5 TAPPERIA (11) Holtz 5-7-1

814 000-5 TAPPERIA (11) Holtz 5-7-1

815 2460-9 USES (20) N Holtz 4-7-10

816 2460-9 USES (20) N Holtz 4-7-10

816 2460-9 USES (20) N Holtz 4-7-10

817 2460-9 USES (20) N Holtz 4-7-10

818 2460-9 USES (20) N HOLTZ (20) F Wester 7-7-10

818 2460-9 USES (20) N HOLTZ (20) F Wester 7-7-10 TOP FORM TIPS: Greak Hight Out 8, Noyan 7, Upper Mount Clair Bestings 9-2 Noyse, 11-2 Upper Moved Clair, 9-1 Shakiye, Grash Hight Qul, 6-1 Sujeci, 16-1 Bete Stact, 13-1 Morder San, Livia, Great Cratics, Tremendatio

8th (Beverley 2m, Gd-Fm). Officest, lettelf T OUT; Led over \$1 set, copp alour, bt Successing VII (Southwell Timit, ARI).

5.20 SPRING THOSE VEAL OLD MAIDEN PILLED STAKES 170 W CASTS DASPOL BEAMONED G OKTONG 8-11
2 DEVENT MESS-P (11) A Janvis 6-11
3 FEBET ON PARK (13) W Brisbourns 6-11
430- FROMPUL ALDY B Bengh 6-11
430- FROMPUL ALDY B BENGH 6-11
9- MESSHAMMEN (2013) J Farebase 8-11 HYSTIC MAID J Was 8-17 HYSTIC MARU J Wass 8-17 5 WIGGOLA'S PRINCIPES (2-1) S Michiaton 8-11 PRINCIPES (24-0) S Marion 8-11 PRINCIPES (24-0) S Michiaton 8-11 ROCKY STRIAM R Whiteker 8-11 TOP FORM TIPE: Promptly 10, Study 8, Sellin Jeepse 7
Senting 13-8 Promptly, 7-4 Buttly, 8-1 Pigeon Hole, 10-1 Divine is 18-1 Micola's Primmer, 20-1 Michineser, Pyrrs Gill.

Proj. . BOLLINI JOANNIE-Creased leaders, ran on well final forlong, 122 2nd to Sive life (Haydook SJ, Gd):

Folkestone 4.30 Pin's D

A CHIEF TOO FAR R Rows 3-12 50-2 ALPRIE HIDEAWAY (17) B Hasbury is 1-5 ARTEROCEROCES (18) M Hoston-Elle is

G-142 ALLEZ CYARID (10) (2) M Bel 5-4

(09-010 SCHARIBHORST (10) (3) S Dow 4-5-1

200-21 WARKER BEACH (21) (3) S 1 Dow 4-5-1

201-21 WARKER BEACH (21) (3) S 1 More 1-9-6

210-010 DOWALE (10) (3) D Heyde Lone 1-9-6

210-02 DOWALE (10) (3) D Heyde Lone 1-9-6

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210-05 D H A Dely (8) 8 S Whiteeoth 2

Beltikep 6-5, Jerry Cotrons, 5-1 Aliez Cyrzen, 7-1 Weikkit Beech, 6-1 Casten, Schernborgi, 12-1 Daveilb 14-1 The Bioges, 16-1 Anteron: Storm, Enrobox Boy

OF MEMORIE (6) R.J Houghton B-11
WITHOUT FREIDING R Harmon II
206 HELLO DOLLY (6) K hory 8-6
I SOLLEY (7) M Change 8-6
4 MEMPRET (10) Gay Keitney 8-6
MAR LUCY ROM R Guest 8-4 _D Molfatt (2) 8:x _D O'Holl (5) 5 _C Soully (7) 6 _Candy Moccie 2 _R Cookean 3 Settings 7-4 Mappet, 5-2 Without Friends, 7-2 Helic Dolly, 9-1 Relades, 9-1 Para Lacy Ron., 12-1 Moltaly, 20-1 Was Told Vicity, 33-1 Whitz Kid 3.30 BARHARI MEDIAN AUCTION NAMES STAKES 370 OF CA.200

2000-ESTRA HOUR (194) W Mut P-0
COVERNOUS ERD Most Line # P-0
GOVERNOUS ERD Most Line # P-0
BOD-0 MARIO P WIT (10) A June 9-0
BOD-0 MARIO P WIT (10) A June 9-0
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S-0 SPOTTED ERGEL (21) R HANDO 9-0 222-0 MERIER THREE THREE (10) K hory 9-0 -0 SPOTTED EAGLE (31) R Hammon 9-0 (0-2 ELESTED SPIRIT (28) C Wall 8-8 9-0 DARDING TERRITURE (21) T Namphon 5-1 FIRST CALLERY F ROWER 6-3 2 WATCH THE PIRIC (15) I Banks 6-3 TOP FORM TIPS: Which The Pire S, Man Ci Wil T, Man

CENT BOARD HAMBOOM IN T 92/46 EX.EXT 0550-01 WARM SPELL (17) (GG 61 Moore 8-9-2 218-5-01 MEZYAN (RS) J Berks 8-9-8 400-65 BEAK (11) J L Harris 4-9-1 506-48 COURSMAN, (11) S Dot 4-9-0 05-222 ARDAR (11) Say Kalessay 5-8-11 50-222 MEMAN (2) (ED) R Sungson 5-8-4 4020-0 SOOLARM (2) (ED) R Flower 8-8-2 128-6-8 ALL THE 4-0175 (TO) (ER) C Cyent 5-9-12 (ED)-415 THE LAB (46) (BF) L Mortagee Hall 7-7-X 31326 BUTTERAA (11) R O Sutbean 8-7-10 500-65

25100- YET AGAIN (209) (2) B Hazbury 4-9-13 30-6019 PIP'S DREAM (13) (2) M Ryan 5-9-11 90050- FASTINI QOLD (184) M Lister 4-9-10 \$0.007 PLASTER QUED (146) M Licher 4-9-10
\$00000 - JOYEE KING (210) ? Michael 4-9-10
\$00000 - JOYEE KING (210) ? Michael 4-9-10
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\$000000 - RAST FORDERAND FRED (217) L Michagou Hall 5-8-7
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\$00000 - AGENT LOW (140) R Rober 4-8-1
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Chepstow (N.H.)

4,40 Fore

2.10 REVINARIO MOVICE CHASE 216 SF 110yds CA,022

S-TYPED WAYWARD MOTHER CARE OF THOUGH CALLER STAGE FOOLS ERRAND (289) (NP) G Backing 6-11-0 PRIMERIAN MART (41) R Rome 6-13-0 ASPAN-0 THE BRIDD (1903) S Shormood B-13-0 D THE GO ANKAD (47) T Foreign 6-11-0 D THE WAYWARD MURHOP (1909) Neu L Tuylor 2-PPPP) WELSH COTTADE (28) J Grind 8-11-0 3212F4 WERYVIL (15) (D) J Bradley 5-10-12

OT JADISTY JUNE (15) (B) B Eckly 5-11-6
BRIST LEFT A Buctior 6-11-0
BRISTY LEFT A Buctior 6-11-0
CAMBRISTY CALE (47) T Foreign 6-11-0
CAMBRISTS BRISTS IN KNOWN 6-11-0
2-25 COMMONT CARDES (55) N Header on 6-11-0
BRISTS CONTEXT CARDES (55) N HEADER ON 6-11-0
BRISTS CONTEXT (ASD) F Today 6-11-0
EAST VARIOTY BRISTS IN C. Debrew 6-11-0
EAST VARIOTY BRISTS IN C. Debrew 6-11-0

D-200-44 DIMMERICS COMPRETE (283) F Trackey E-11-6
FARCY MARCY MISS COMMENT (283) 6-11-6
FARCHOM (283) C Heath 6-11-6
GLESTERRIGHD DAWN'S C Christine 6-11-0
DI LADY MISSERV DUCK (28) G Balding 6-11-0
DI MISS MYLLTER (13) G Actival 6-11-0
DI MODORNICHTER (10) G JACKSON 6-11-0
DI PERIOLINI (283) R Albert 6-11-0
STIZES PRANCISION (283) R Albert 6-11-0
GREY BLADE MYS P Pile 4-10-7
GREY BLADE MYS P PILOPE (10) P PROBES 6-10-19

3.50 dermanded windows south also wret walls point-to-point champed phiritier chass) (Assessing) 3m C9,571 SR GFALMS) (AMMENTAL JAM AGES 1. 2455-53 GOOLDE GOLD (27) Owned Brace 10-12-3 5478-FF WELSEL LEGION (548) (CD) G Levist 11-12-3 125841- TOOCH WP PASS (1985) R Williams 8-12-3 BANCYFELM BOY Men A Williams 8-12-3 6 PARACYFELIB BOY Mas A Writams 9-13-3
6 PARACOC, (19) Y Jone 7-12-3
6 26/11- GRE DOUBLE VOU (2007) J Talech 15-13-3
7 //000/- MRYROSTYLE (1980) H Lawis 13-12-3
9 PSSP-5- PAT CIRLING (280) D Water 13-12-3
10 326-92- WRITERS GRAY (272) Jub m Jones 13-12-3
11 0235- GRITIC DADDHTER (383) H Lawis 7-11-12
12 000005- MAJOR BERT (1850) G Spencer 8-11-12
13 MRSS MALLINGOK D Goldworthy 8-11-12
14 SETTER LARK J Jones 7-11-12
15 SETTER LARK J Jones 7-11-12
16 SETTER LARK J JONES (5-1) Was Million Serior (1980) H J Sancyfelin Boy, 12-1 Tosch N Pass, Major Berl A Whole (7) 2 William (7) A Spanne (2)

119-320 KISSAID (42) (D) M Pipe 5-11-10
1-4532 FOURTH IN LINE (10) (D) J Edwards 8-93-9
5/20-08 ENAIGH BYOLES (10) (D) G Belding 7-10-6
100444 SEPERMEN BASSTER (10) (D) Man G Johney 6-10-0
12216 TOUCH SEVEN (10) (D) H Mansers 6-10-0 R Johnson (2) A P McCoy R Format A Devilley (7)

10 LOHIO RAILI, KAMDRICAP CHASE Sm 27 170yds 24,148

1393-15 DORFT LIGHT UP CHASE Sm 27 170yds 24,148

129: -PO CALATON GREEKE (17) (20) Weeths Williams 10-12-0

24: -PPO CALATON GREEKE (20) (20) Mrs 1-17-0

2-4PPP1 JURASSIC CLASSIC (20) (20) Mrs 1-Richests 9-11-5

20: LU-UG THP BRAINING (42) S Sherwood 11-11-4

2-11-13 MCKLUR (40) T FORIST 6-11-4

3-1153 MCKLUR (40) T FORIST 6-11-4

5-1153 DRAMOND FORT (17) (20) J McConnochts 11-11-3

- 20: PROCESS ROOMS FORT (17) (20) J McConnochts 11-11-3

- 20: PROCESS ROOMS (17) R Carlis 28-11-1

1-22: PROCESS ROOMS (18) R Rothwell 10-11-0

- 20: PP PROCESS ROOMS (18) R ROTHWELL 10-13

- 20: PP PROCESS ROOMS (18) R ROTHWELL 10-13

- 20: PP PROCESS ROOMS (18) R ROTHWELL 10-13

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22. 4(FP-PS4 SALCOMBE HARBOUR (15) Dr P Prechard 12-10-0 Betfieg: 7-1 (Breek, 8-1 My Main Man, Waterford Cestie, Juneaus Class Nicksp. 12-1 Democy Fort, Trop Mariner, Fraces Drop

O BASSIT MOYICE MURDLE (DIY I) 2th 110/ds C2/062	
0-123/2 MOUSE BIRD (42) (BF) D Candolfo 5-11-8	سنعما السيسا
5 ARTURO (191) T Forster 5-11-2	
1904- CHEER'S BABY (717) Grasse Ros 8-11-2	S Graham (7)
CELLIS DARRIS THE ORBAT (10) (CD) D Maria 4-11-2	
5813 DRAKESTONE (13) 9 Brown 5-11-2	
SOF FABULOUS MITOTO (22) 14 Sauchica 6-11-2	
400153 FORESTAL (12) 8 Gritatio 4-11-2	
U HIERERY'S PORT (6) Mantyn Mondo 6-11-2	
(P ELELEY STAR (57) R Stronge 5-11-2	Lite J Ross
Microsof & Harwood &-11-2	
COP4 STANLER (32) N Tension-Device 8-11-2	
LIGHT MONOCHY'S WIEDERING (284) H Kavacagh 5-11-2	
3 MR GOOGHBLLY (31) R Alber 5-11-2	W Halfacton
TO SEARROOK LAD (55) M Wildeson 5-11-2	
08-0 SBYIEN BROOKS (91) J For 8-11-2	. S Fak
PO JUNEAU C1 285 C North 6-10-17	R Keessaah
er 7-4 Mouse Bard, 6-1 Forestal, 6-1 Darius The Creat, 8-1 Immense,	Dramations: 10-1 Father
12-1 Henrys Part, 14-1 Mabler, 20-1 Artero	16 mme
O SABERT MOVICE HURBLE (DAY 2) 2m 110pile C2,038	

46184P DRESS DANCE (22) N MINTER 6-11-8 12120 MARRICTOR SELK (26) (CD) M Pips 4-11-6
223-17 DECLICATE (86) (D) Mrs M Jones 4-11-6
410 TARRICK (18) (D) Mrs M Jones 4-11-8
CHIMA CEM (D Pipes 15-11-2
[I) COOL GERMER (46) J King 8-11-2
5-5 FLEPPANCE (80) (DE) N Cancing 6-11-2
MILLEROMER (NOW 6-11-2
10-405 SHEET THERITIMO (223 M Tais 5-11-2
2 THIM SAKLOR (27) T Froitin 6-11-2
[I-10] UPHAM RASCAL (37) II Candido 5-11-2
[I-0-409 WINTER EMBER (19) M SHOOOD 6-11-2

p. 0-00 UPMAN RASCAL (21) D Gasdolo 5-11-1 00-00 Winters model (18) M Shepped 5-11-2 14 9-1P PRODES CORNER (23) R Horist 5-10-1 18 4006 THE GUADA (45) J Fitch-Heyru 4-10-18 P JAMPIN PRODESS (45) J Horist 4-10-18 (sign 11-3 Harrins Six, 5-1 Tarrotk 8-1 Incalcas, Turn-son, The Creats, Whiter Rose, 3-1 Sweet Treston.

1

ect as foster

Reid and

Clark in

Rush

chase

HE scramble to secure

the services of Liver-pool's Ian Rush is threat-

ening to become a stampede.

Two months after announcing he intended to leave the
Merseyside club at the end of

the season the Welsh interna-tional forward is the most

sought-after footballer in

Sunderland are the latest to express official interest in a

player who will celebrate his 35th birthday in October.

Forest's manager Frank Clark, having seen his side persistently undermined by

the absence of a striker of proven ability, will offer Rush the opportunity to finish his career at the City

Clark invested £43 million in two forwards, Arsenal's Kevin Campbell and Andrea Silenzi of Torino, last sum-

silenzi of Torino, last sum-mer. But now he is thought likely to admit an error of judgment over both players and sanction their sale. Rush, who is available on a

free transfer, is expected to meet Clark for exploratory

talks. But they are unlikely to be held before he has listened

to the sales pitch of Peter Reid manager of the Premier-ship's newcomers next sea-

offer he is likely to take up

tion. However, as I have said all along, I do intend to keep all my options open."
Sunderland's rich owner

men to belp further. Reid, before he meets Rush

will try to sign the United States international goal-keeper Brad Friedl, who plays in Turkey with Galatasaray.

Friedl would have joined Sunderland nine months ago

but for a protracted row over

his work permit. Blackburn Rovers' reserve-

team goalkeeper Shay Given has made an impressive con-tribution to Sunderland's sea-

Nottingham Forest and

ian Ross

VENABLES READY TO FOLLOW FASHIONABLE CLUB FORMAT AGAINST CROATIA

England set to take the treble chance line

David Lacey

ERRY VENABLES will try anything once and, if he wants to see how well England can cope with playing three at the back and five in midfield, now is surely the time. Injuries may force his hand in picking the side for tomorrow's match against Croatia but Venables still has the chance to gain something

from adversity.

To start with, Croatia play to a similar system and are potentially the strongest op-ponents England will meet in the run-up to the European

Championship.
"I think Croatia will be one of the favourites," said Venables. Remembering how some outstanding Yugoslavia sides failed to live up to their billing, such statements need qualifying but there can be no oubt about the ability of the players available to Croatia's coach Miroslav Blazevic.

There is a slight doubt about Boban's fitness but otherwise he will be the fulcrum of quick Croatian switches from defence to attack at Wembley tomorrow. vic and Jarni working the flanks in support of Asanovic

should be the game which not only asks the most serious questions yet about England's defence but offers Venables an opportunity to provide some alternative answers.

While he has lost Adams, Pallister, Howey and South-Pallister, Howey and South-gate to injuries, two of the three centre-backs in his squad, Wright and Ehiogu, habitually play in three-man defences for their clubs, Liv-erpool and Aston Villa, while Gary Neville has often moved from right-back to centre-back for Manchester United.

back for Manchester United.

When England abandon a
flat back four it is an event.
Bobby Robson suddenly opted for a sweeper in the 1990 World Cup. using Wright be-hind Walker and Butcher. In the 1992 European Champion-ship Graham Taylor employed Palmer similarly with Walker and Keown. Venables would not play a

sweeper system so much as a flat back three. But the roles of the wide men, presumably Stone and Pearce in this case would be just as crucial. So would the newly restored midfield axis of Ince and Gascoigne, and in particular the latter's defensive duties. Hypothetical though the

Bilic, Jerkan and Stimac will discussion may be, it is signif-play at the back, with Jurce icant that in his column for vic and Jarni working the limingham pink'un on flanks in support of Asanovic and Prosinecki. Suker and land's senior coach with Boksic, two of Europe's best special responsibilities for the defence, waxed enthusias prey to the inertia which dulled Bulgaria's performance at Wembley, this special responsibilities for the defence, waxed enthusias thiogu would win his first in midfield for Tottenham. Howe also suggested that alternative, has usually been sitting in there against Bulgaria, doing my defensive parts, doing my defensive parts, and use tomorrow, much dependent and use tomorrow a



Bisham Abbey bends . . . the striker Stan Collymore takes a breather during a damp England training session yesterday

Forty-eight hours after guiding the Wearside club to promotion Reid invited Rush PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK BARON for talks at Roker Park, an

ing come on for a quarter of an hour last time. Sheringh-

as well as take them, will again be crucial. ENGLAND probable: Sammen (Arsens): 0 Novem (Man Uni), Whight (Liverpoot), Ebiogu (A Villa), Stope (Notin F).

before the weekend.
"I know Peter Reid well from his time at Everton," Rush said. "Yes, I have spoken to him. Sunderland are one of the clubs in conten-

Jess the calculator doubly concerned

Patrick Glenn meets the Sky Blue Scot hoping that tonight's B international in Denmark will be his springboard to Euro '96

Falster tonight is merely an extension of the one he has form, has a better claim for inclusion in Brown's Euro-his £2 million move from Ab pean Championship plans

fielder began the season as a Aberdeen Scott Booth has near certainty for Craig been left on the bench be-Brown's Euro '96 squad. Now Brown's Euro 90 squau. Now he finds himself with anxihe finds himself with anxi"Sometimes it's hard bal"Sometimes it's hard bal-

B international against caps and has consistently impressed at senior international level whatever his club erdeen to Coventry three than any of his team-mates months ago.

The forward-cum-mid- that his former colleague at cause he has a slight ankle

from the Premiership and his own prospects of playing in length of the European finals." I made the wrong career move when I went to Covening the European finals." I made the wrong career though Goram has long been though Goram has long been recognised as Scotland's best said Jess in Copenhagen yes try," said Jess. "I don't think goalkeeper, Leighton has long been though Goram has long been recognised as Scotland's best said Jess in Copenhagen yes try," said Jess. "I don't think goalkeeper, Leighton has long been recognised as Scotland's best said Jess in Copenhagen yes try," said Jess. "I don't think goalkeeper, Leighton has long been recognised as Scotland's best said Jess in Copenhagen yes try," said Jess. "I don't think goalkeeper, Leighton has long been recognised as Scotland's best said Jess in Copenhagen yes try," said Jess. "I don't think goalkeeper, Leighton has long been recognised as Scotland's best said Jess in Copenhagen yes try," said Jess in Copenhagen yes try, "said Jess try," said Jess try,

Jess, who has gained 10 full | terday. "But I knew what

was getting into.
"I had a slow start at Coventry, when the English game seemed to pass me by. But I feel I'm progressing with every match. I got my first goal against Queens Park Rangers and that was a relief. It settled me even more be cause, as the winner, it was so important.' This has not silenced scep

tics north of the border. "It's only when I come up to Scot-

enough mentally to handle it and to forget about it as long as I get to Euro '96.'

tem that has worked well for clubs like Villa and Liverpool back for Villa all season plements Inca, Sheringham whereas Campbell, the other and McManaman. "I enjoyed that alternative, has usually been sitting in there against Bul-

Booth's problem relates to fitness rather than international form — he has scored five goals in 10 appearances, four as a substitute. He was unable to train before departure because of the recurrence of an ankle knock but is likely to be brought on in the second haif.

Andy Goram and Jim Leighton will play 45 minutes each in the full international at the Parken Stadium in Co-

I have and I don't think we'll been in possession for most of the European qualifying and are, I'm confident I am strong has an outstanding record. Goram appeared to have spoiled his chances when he pulled out of the vital match against Greece last August

against Greece last Angust, saying he was "not mentally attuned" for the occasion. "But we brought him back for 20 minutes against Sweden in October to show that we wouldn't hold any previous incidents against him," said Brown, "It's a trib-ute to the two goalkeepers" comparable abilities that we should have to make a tough decision. But that's for later.

SCOTLAND By Walker (Partick)

Bob Murray has promised his manager about £10 million to help strengthen a side that, Sexton left short on experience as withdrawals hit Under-21s while good enough to domi-nate a division of doubtful quality, still have a light-weight look. The club's chair-man John Featherstone has appealed to local business-

DAVE SEXTON, the England Under-21 coach, that Rush no longer wanted has named eight uncapped players in his squad for tonight's friendly with Cro-

am's ability to give chances

atia at Sunderland. Six of his original party are missing for a variety of reasons and only Kevin Gallen of QPR, Crystal Palace's Bruce Dyer and Chris Holland of Newcastle have

played at this level before. Bobby Gould, Wales's manager, has denied renewed speculation of a rift with Ian Rush after ac-cepting a request from his country's record scorer not to play in the opening World Cup qualifier in San Marino in June. Gould, preparing for tomorrow's friendly in Switzerland.

that Rush no longer wanted to play for his country.

The Republic of Ireland manager Mick McCarthy has been left with a straight choice between iverpool's Mark Kennedy and the uncapped Alan Moore of Middlesbrough as Niell Quinn's striking part-ner in Prague tomorrow. Neither is a recognised

ENGLAND U-21: Day (Tottenham Form (Library, Holland (Newsman), (Crystal Palace), Holland (Newsman), WALES 'y Switzerland, Lugano, WALES 'y Switzerland, Lugano, Manager (Transcrept Robbsook

like to make Given's move to the north-east permanent but of Ireland international is not for sale at any price. Reid is not the only ambi-

tious manager hoping to use the old-friends act in an attampt to secure Rush. Howard Kendall has already met Rush and offered him the post of No. 2 at Sheffield United. The list of clubs wanting to

sign Liverpool's all-time lead-ing scorer is ever expanding. Among those to have already tossed hats into the ring are eeds, Middlesbrough, Celtic. Portsmouth, Stoke, and clubs in the US, Australia, Singa-

Snooker

Lawler pulls off the first upset

Clive Everton in Sheffield

famous snooker son John Parrott 10-6 to cause the first up-set in the World Championship here yesterday. It was the world No.4's first openble Theatre in 13 years.

Sunday evening session — Parrott admitting it was "as bad as I've played all season" — but the 1991 champion lev 45-0 in the 13th frame. At that point Lawler fluked



win over David Roe, who be-

came the first top-16 seed to The tournament director Ann Yates is to report Ronnie O'Sullivan's conduct during, and his comments after. Sun-

doux to the board of the World Professional Billiards

Results

Soccer

Golf

GOIT

MCI CLASSIC IHIDON Head Island, South
Carolina): Final secres (US unleta:
stateq: 365 L. Roberts 68, 69, 63, 67 286
M O Mears 68, 69, 65, 65, 270 S. Moch 71,
65, 66, 66, 271 D Love 58, 68, 50, 67, 273
N Price (Zim) 72, 57, 69 85; V Singh (Fili)
70, 57, 99, 57; I Watson 67, 57, 72, 67, 274
G Satsers 69 72, 69, 65, 71, 69; 6, 60, 50,
71, 67; J Maggert 59, 66, 71, 69; C Monlgomeric IGB; 69, 68, 70, 69; L. Netson 67, 68,
69, 70, 275 J Stumen 67, 67, 73, 62, 71
Lehman 68, 70, 67, 70, 276 L. Janzen 69,
70, 69, 68, B Tway 67, 70, 70, 50; W Austin
72, 67, 67, 70, 277 B Lohr 68, 71, 69, 60, R
Cochran 71, 68, 69, 69, 89, 89, 71, 68, 62, 71
Roman (Aus) 69, 69, 72, 68, 279 N Faldo
(IGB) 70, 68, 71, 70, 289 M Campbell INZ)
73, 69, 70, 71, 286 S Lyle IGB) 71, 71, 76,
69, 267 D Prost (SAI 71, 71, 70, 78,
TEARITIES

Tennis

Washington (US) bt M Filippini (Uru) 6-7, 6-4, 7-6.

MONTE CARLO OPER's First rounds A Medivedov (Uhr) bt A Seranategu (Sp) 8-4, 8-4; J Novak (Cz) bt J Bjerfram (Sere) 2-6, 7-6, 6-3; J Stemestak (North) bt B Karbacher (Ger) 6-3, 6-2; R Pariss (North) bt U Vacek (Cz) 6-4, 7-6; S Schallion (North) bt P Fredrickson (Swe) 8-3, 7-6; M Philipponesials (Aus) bt G Schaller (Auf) 2-6, 7-6, 7-6, A Bookson (Fr) bt M Gostliner (Ger) 6-2, 8-4; D Ridd (Ger) bt H Loconte (Fr) 8-2, 6-7, 8-2; F Mantilla (Sp) bt O Narryiso (til) 3-6, 8-0, 8-2; H General (Svo) bt A Correla (Sp) 6-3, 8-3, P Months (Cz) bt T Martin (US) 6-4, 8-3, S Ribberg (Swo) bt A Correla (Sp) 7-6, 8-3, C Costa (Sp) bt A Correla (Sp) 7-6, 8-3, M Gostlandson (Swe) bt O Martinaz (Sp) 6-6, 8-5, M Gostlandson (Swe) bt O Martinaz (Sp) 6-6, 8-1, F Sandrov (Sp) Cull (North La Martinaz (Sp) 5-6, 8-5, M Gostlandson (Swe) bt O Martinaz (Sp) 5-6, 8-2, M Gostlandson (Swe) bt O Martinaz (Sp) 5-6.

5-2
FED CUP (Hyart La Manga Club Spt:
Europe/Attrias tones Group asset Fool Ar
Belanus 2, Great Britain 1 (G5 frst) 5
Sentin (Esses) Ist 7 (gnallova 5-2, 5-3; C
Wood (Sussan) loof to N Zverrave 7-5, 4-6,
5-3; Wood'V Lake (Devon) lost to Zverava/Ignatiova 7-5, 7-6, Flussia 3, Stove-

Baseball

American Leagues Covetand 11. Boson 7; Minnesota 5, New York 9; Kanass City 4, Minnesota 5, New York 9; Kanass City 4, Minnesota 5, Tevas 9, Baltimore 8; California 6, Detroit 5, Standings Eastweens 1, Baltimore (W11, LB, Pet 547, GBD; 2, New York (87-523); 3, Tonoto (8-10-444-30); 4, Detroit (8-12-400-48); 5, Boston (8-15-187-83), Centrain 1, Cleveland (W10, LB, Pet 55, GBD); 2, Milleausser (10-6-55-0); 3, Chicago (8-9-471-67), 4, Minnesota 17-9-438-3), 5, Kanasa City (5-13-276-6), Westlertz 1, Texas (W13, LA, Pet 765, GBD), 2, Beatile (13-8-884-1), 3, California (10-8-56-35); 4, Oakland (7-10-412-6), Mattonial Leagues Agency 1, San Deepo 2 (so 15); Montreal 9, Pittsburgh 4, Philadelphia 4, St Louis 2, New York 4, Colorado 6, Chicago 10-6-55-6-10, 3, Puladelphia (8-9-471-25), 4, Florida 8-11-421-33), 5, New York 15-11-313-5 Centrain 19-9-500-18, 4 Houston 19-9-500-18, 4 Houston 19-9-500-18, 4 Houston 19-9-500-18, 5 Pittsburgh (8-11-421-31), 5, New York 15-11-313-5 Centrain 19-9-500-18, 4 Houston 19-9-500-18, 5 Pittsburgh (8-11-421-31), 4 Florida 8-11-421-31, 5 Florida 10-11-421-31, 5 Florida 10-11-421-31,

Basketball

NSAs Boston 111. New York 122; Toronk 105, Philadelphila 108 (ot); Weshington 53 Chicago 105; Charlotte 100. Oriendo 110 Derver 69, Seablé 65; Houston 118, Phoe nix 110; Indiana 89, Cleveland 66; San An New 1988 Chilles 1011 A Clinome 101. Van

Tres Ressr
Second finelings (overnight 126-4)
G P Thorpe not out
'PR C Russell of Sulphury I Munton
I Watboson c 8 b Irani
G Chapple C Rollins b Irani
R K Illingsvorth c Knight b Munton
P M Hutchtson Ibw b Glodins
D Lewry c Irani b Glodins
Extras (b18, lb7, nb8)

ENGLARD A
Second facings
N V Kright nof out
A McGrath c Chapple b Lewry
N Husaam b Hutchton
LC Pooley not out
Extras (R2)

SESTIND BLEVEN CHAMPIONSHIPS Cantasbary Lancashire 451-6 dec P C McKeown 75, N T Wood 140; Kerl 22-0. IT J G O'Gorman 145co, M R May 52] v Warwickshire, Tanastora Notinghamshire 250-6 [U Aszani 55] v Someraet.

EMBASSY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Staffeld): First round: @ Wikinson (Eng) bt D Roc (Eng) 10-9; R Lawler (Eng) bt J Parrott (Eng) 10-5.

Snooker .

ice Hockey

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6, France B

6, France B

688. PLAY-OFFSE First rounds Seaters

688. Philosophi

Pools Forecast 30 Donostar 31 Ereter 32 Pattern 33 Harrispool 34 L Criert 4 Man C 4 St Manufacture 4 Manufact

Fixtures

U-21 FREERENTY England v Croatia (7.45).

INDESTRUCT LEAGUES First Divisions Port Vala v Luton (7.45); Westord v Grimsby (7.46). Second Divisions Burmisey v Bristol Purst; Carliste v York (7.45); Chesterfield v Swindom (7.45); Notice of v Brighton (7.45); Chiesterfield v Swindom (7.45); Notice of v Brighton (7.45); Chesterfield v Swindom (7.45); Notice of v Brighton v Stockport; Walsali v Hull (7.45); Third Divisions Crester v Northampian: Herstord v Darlington; Mansfeld v Torquay (7.45); Susstinorpa v Donosator; Dally (7.45); Third Divisions Particle of VallyChall, Conversion v Northampian: Herstord v Darlington; Mansfeld v Torquay (7.45); Susstinorpa v Donosator; Divisions (7.45); Welling v Kettering (7.45); Hullion (7.45); Wellion (7.45); Hullion (7.45); Wellion (7.45); Wellio

Gristol MF v Bridgort; Paulton River v Caine Tr. PONTRES LEAGUE: Mest Division Ever-ion v Leeds (7.0). Seesa Division Cov-

POSTTHES LEAGUES FIRST INVESIONS EVENTON V Leeds (7.0). Second Divisions Coventry v Bunderland (7.0).
AVON INSURANCE CORRESPARTIONS
First Divisions Portamouth v Brighton
(7.0): Tottenham v West Ham. Second
Divisions: Prymouth v Bath.
LEAGUE OF WALES: Centrus v Convy.
Newtown v Briton Ferry. Caps Semi-final,
second-legs Barry Tn v Ebbw Vals; Connah's Chair v Centruston The Capital.
LEAGUE: Reading v Paterborough (2.0).
FAI SEMOR CHAILERINGE CAPS Semifinal, second-replays Bohemiams v St
Particle Ash (7.15).
LEAGUE: OF INSEANDS Premier Divletons Cork C v Shebourms (6.30).
To INTERNATIONAL Denmark v Scotland (5.30). by History Land (530), UZFA U-18 C'SHIP QUALIFIER, Second-leg; England v Scotland (7.45),

Rugby Union Rugby League Hockey

Coca-Cola bye on the cards

Martin Thorpe HE Premier League wants its clubs to be given a bye

to the third round of the Coca-Cola Cup. Premiership chairmen, worried by the growing number of domestic fixtures, meeting last Thursday and prefer it to the Football League's earlier suggestion that only Premiership teams involved in Europe should join the competition late.
Discussions on the new plan are due to take place shortly between the Premier League's chief executive Rick Parry and David Dent, the Football League secretary. With Uefa due to take away the lucrative European place given to the Coca-Cola Cup winners from the season after next, the Football League is anxious to accommodate Premier League wishes rather than lose the top teams from

their competition altogether. · Garry Flitcroft, Blackburn's £3 million midfielder who was sent off within four minutes of his debut against Everton last month, has been handed an extra one-match suspension. The signing from Manchester City has collected 12 book-

ings this season and recently served two games of a threematch ban. The extra ban means he will not play again this season. Southampton's Barry Veni-

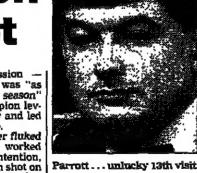
son will miss Saturday's match at Bolton. His recent booking against Manchester United took him past the 31point disciplinary mark and means a one-match ban.

OD LAWLER, a 24-year-old Liverpudlian, beat his home town's most ing-round exit from the Cruci-

forlorn hope, however, after some good results in recent months. He beat Stephen dog," said Parrott. "It Hendry to reach the final of changed the whole match." the Sweater Shop Open, a ranking event, and took red-to-pink clearance and minor titles in Helsinki and Beijing. But for beating Dening the final two frames. Beijing But for beating Dennis Taylor in the last round of world qualifying he would have been playing this week polyieran and the polyieran and the state of the polyieran and the state of the state o

elled at 6-6 yesterday and led a red and gradually worked his way back into contention, only to commit a push shot on

the brown. Parrott potted a brown went in-off at an unlikely angle to leave Lawier a winning run to the pink. "It shouldn't have happened to a Lawler went 8-6 up after a



Pakistan. the defending champion "You have to despatch these Lawler led 6–3 after a solid Hendry after a gripping 10–9 people from the tournament."

and Snooker Association.
"I didn't give him any
respect because he didn't deserve it." O'Sullivan said.
"You have to despatch these

Sport and the Law

Ski officials charged over Maier death

ian Traynor

THE two International Ski-ing Federation race direc-



killing" the Austrian world champion Ulrike Maier went on trial in Munich yesterday. only days after a British judge's landmark ruling in the Ben Smoldon case set new parameters on the responsibilities of sports officials. Kurt Hoch and Jan Tisch-

hauser, respectively Austrian and Swiss, vehemently deny that they chose a dangerous position on the Kandahar downhill course for the timing post which Maier fatally hit in a World Cup race at Garmisch-Partenkirchen in Austria was plunged into mourning when Maier, then

26 and twice super-giant sla-

lom world champion, broke her neck when she hit the

straw-padded post at 65 mph | half of the couple's daughter.

near the bottom of the run. The prosecution claims that the post's siting narrowed the run unacceptably by four yards at the fatal spot but Hoch blamed the pressures on downhillers to use ever faster and more dangerous equipment, in this instance the preparation of the skis which these days, he said, "are being used as weapons". "The accident was not fore-

seeable," said Hoch, while his co-accused Tischhauser said: "I am not guilty. It was an atypical accident." A guilty verdict could bring five-year prison terms and hefty fines and would be certain to be followed by damages claims by Maier's lover

Hubert Schweighofer on be-

Baseball

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Politon	v Southampton	*	37 Rochdale	y Ph
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shelf Wed			38 Scarborough	9 30
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The Asid M 4. A The vote of confidence in Mike Atherton has cleared the decks for fiercer battles to come on the Illingworth panel, says Mike Selvey

England's last easy decision

has been given the go-ahead to lead England

In a decision that by last year's standards constitutes indecent haste, the chairman of selectors Raymond Illing-worth announced that Atherton was being appointed for the three one-day internationals and three Tests against India; a review for the second half of the season will be

It means, ironically, that by the end of the series Atherton should have overhauled Mingworth's 21 Tests as cap-tain, and so can be regarded as more experienced.

After a tough winter in South Africa and a humiliatsented a weary figure. But a break has rekindled his opti-mism and despite only seven

the go-ahead to lead England would have needed little continue.

The new selection committee would have needed little continue.

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"I'm delighted," he said yesterday. "I did feel down, but it didn't take long to get back up again. I'm full of optimism and hopefully that op-timism can be fulfilled." Yet if Atherton is in the un-

accustomed position of start-ing the summer knowing ex-actly where he stands, the same does not appear so true of the new England coach. David Lloyd has already crossed swords with Illing crossed swords with Illing-worth over a point of policy and been forced to concede. At first sight, Illingworth's dismissal of Lloyd's efforts to recruit Ian Botham to his coaching team ("Ian might have a role in the future but we won't be using him this

Mingworth has had a fough-time of it in the past few mouths. A competitive Test series was lost in one bour's tail-end mayhem in Cape Town but was followed by a wretched one-day series and World Cup, where England's hopeless suck-it-and-see strat-egy meant they finished the competition with no more idea of their best side or how me than at the start. in the real world Illing-worth, as the supremo who

nation. He has survived because this is English cricket. tricks campaign to stop him becoming a selector. (Years ago Botham shrugged off an indiscretion by saying he did but he has not come through unscathed. Thus, having relinquished his role as overlord and

not agree with what his ghost | chief executive Alan Smith, Illingworth now: his motivational powers plus a coach who was not his own first choice and a captain the chairman, and the evi-dence is there from his brief period of captainty. The Legend, he feels, would get bored. Lloyd on the other hand thinks that Botham whose relationship with him cannot be described as close

but whose own position has been fortified in adversity. On top of that, he knows that the new coach wanted his arcb-critic Botham as a recruit to a coaching team.

Despite his gruff exterior, Elingworth is not impervious thingworm is not impervious to criticism. He was stung by the recent campaign to oust him and certainly he has not taken Botham's remarks lightly, although Botham has since tried to deny his own newspaper story that he was the victim of a TCCB dirty

coach trying to establish his own style what tools he should use for his trade, and indeed whether personal antipathy should even he suspected of overriding what might be best for the team.

Illingworth's terms of refer

have reverted to precisely those — still wide ranging believes first became chairman of sional judgment, Lloyd felt that Botham, or anyone else, would be an asset in his preparation of the team, then

surely he should be allowed to put his judgment on the line. could contribute a great deal, from technical advice in par-Lloyd is an enthusiastic, fo-cused and dedicated coach. He admits he has ambition ticular to enthusiasm. and, on a one-season contract only, is keen to make an impression. He took the job believing in the coath's right to select his associates and yet already it seems he has had his hands tied. Either may be right, but that is not the issue. What really matters is whether it is fair that Illingworth — hands on chairman or not - should be dictating to an England coach trying to establish his

Peter Lever and John Peter Lever and John Edrich, Illingworth appointments both last year, remain bowling and batting coach respectively. While Lloyd may well agree they are valuable men, if he disagrees and

SPORTS NEWS 15

Modahl abuses official

Duncan Mackey

remit. To whom, incidentally,

are they responsible? Despite

some outward statements of unity, it remains an unsatis-

factory state of affairs.

After Illingworth's Satur-

day rejection of Botham, Lloyd was at pains to point out that the selectors' week.

end together at Chelmsford had been "brilliant" — al-

though he did say that at one point in their deliberations he

If Lloyd thinks that the fighting is over and he can op-

sphere of influence, he may

well be in for a nasty shock. The bell has not even sounded

good cuts man

DIANE MODAHL could be the subject of a fresh investigation by the British Athletic Federation after an astonishing public attack on one of the officials who suspended her. Competitors finishing the

London Marathon watched in amazement as Modahl shouted abuse at Joslyn Hoyte-Smith in the baggage

area of Sunday's race before being led away by her husband Vicentr.

"She really laid into Joslyn," said one onlooker. "She clearly believes that Joslyn bed with a bed with the desire that Joslyn bed with a bed with the learner to do with had quite a lot to do with what happened to her."

It was the first time Modahl had met Hoyte-Smith since

the latter was on the four-member BAF panel which suspended the former Com-monwealth 800 metres champion for four years in Decem-ber 1994 after she had tested positive for testosterone at a meeting in Lisbon in June that year. The decision was reversed seven months later after Modahi presented new evidence, and she was offi-cially cleared all of doping at legations by the International legations by the International Amateur Athletic Federation

Modahl's confrontation with Hoyte-Smith, who was attending Sunday's race in her capacity as the BAF's in-competition drug-testing offi-cial, ended when one of her colleagues stepped in to break it up. Modahl then spent several minutes regaining her composure before she, her husband and her daughter Imani left to watch the end of the race in which Domingos Castro, the Portuguese run-ner Vicente Modahl represents, was competing.

"The people on that panel have shown no remorse," said Modahl's husband. "In fact, they have shown just the

opposite."
The incident comes at a sensitive time in relations be-tween Modahl and the BAF. She is currently suing it for \$480,000 for damages and loss of earnings after being forced out of the sport for 19 months. That will not stop it taking action against Modahl if

Hoyte-Smith refused to comment but Tony Ward, the BAF spokesman, said: "If Jos-lyn complains, then we would obviously have to look into

'A lot of t thetic to Diane but to start abusing members of the panel, who after all were only panel, who arer all were only carrying out the rules of the IAAF, is counter-productive. Diane is really going to have to overcome this bitterness if she is going to qualify and do well at this year's Olympics."

Britain's marathon selec-tors will finalise the team for Atlanta on Saturday morning. The London race did not make the picture much clearer, with Britain's top fin-isher in the men's race, the third-placed Paul Evans, still undecided about whether he wants run the marathon or

10,000 metres.

If Evans accepts a place alongside the pre-selected Peter Whitehead and Richard ted to the longer distance. "It doesn't matter if he wins the 10,000 metres trial; once he has decided to do the maraelse." said Ward.

There are no doubts in Liz McColgan's mind. She has been installed as 3-1 favourite for the Olympic gold medal by bookmakers after her London poolemakers after her London victory. The Scot promised yesterday that she will not employ the same tactics as on Sunday, when she allowed three runners to open a gap which at one point stretched to more than two minutes. "They could easily have gone on to win," she admitted. "I won't allow it to happen in the Olympics."

A record 26,761 runners fin-ished on Sunday and, despite the heat, under one per cent of the starters dropped out. "That is an absolutely stag-gering statistic," said Alan Storey, the race manager.

Rugby Union

RFU faces the inevitable on pay-per-view

GROWING number of club administrators be-lieve that pay-per-view television, especially for European Cup games, must be introduced to help provide the income to pay players and develop their grounds in the professional era.

The Rugby Football Union, which in theory would like to see the terrestrial channels retain a key role in transmitting top fixtures, will inevita-bly be forced to go along with pay-per-view with BSkyB to fund a new multi-million

But even so, when the RFU today spells out its policy on the renewal of TV contracts, it is a racing certainty that officials will play down or

of £35 to attend internationals at Twickenham and from £7 to £12 at the gate to watch TV viewing of Five Nations Championship matches and Courage league fixtures has been free, apart from basic rental and licence fees.

All that is set to change in the second half of the Nineties when Sky develops the same financial grip on international, Europeen and domes-tic rugby that it has exerted since 1992 over Premiership soccer. To date Sky has focused on the sale of satellite dishes, restricting pay-perview to the recent BrunoTyson fight, but that low-key strategy is certain to be reviewed next year when fresh rugby union and soccar contracts are negotiated.

Truly serious money can be raised to pay the annual salaries of England's top 300 players, ranging from £15,000 to £60,000, only by going directly to the TV consumer and ask-ing him or her to pay a good deal more.

Coca Colable

on the carts

As one cash-strapped League One chairman put it recently: "Professionalism means the days of cheap means the days or cheap rugby for supporters, whether they are in the stand or their favourite armchair, are over. In order to survive clubs will have to provide the type of rugby people will pay extra to watch."

extra to watch."

However, the leading Five Nations matches — those involving England or France — are unlikely to escape the costly embrace of pay-perview either. The RFU's determined to accordance its OWA. mination to negotiate its own TV deal outside the remit of the Five Nations committee rests on the undeniable pre-



mise that it commands 70 per cent of the British TV audience, 300,000 of whom regu-

larly apply for tickets to every championship match played

Clearly a new TV package that included, say, the de-layed transmission of Five Nations highlights by terres-trial channels and pay-permission of the same game would have considerable appeal to the RFU.

Naturally union negotia-tors do not want to be seen clobbering the consumer/supporter at this delicate stage when the chasm between the widened dramatically. Yet once a compromise has been reached, rugby's wheeler-dealers will put their heads together for club and country

constitute a reliable yardstick, the cost to the armchair fan here should be between 28

It is likely that England in-ternationals at Twickenham against, say, France or New Zealand will cost around £11 on pay-per-view, with games against the Celtic nations scaling down to 29. Given that scaling down to £9. Given that the great majority of rugby union supporters fall into the desirable ABC advertising categories, there should be little difficulty in persuading them to pay up, especially when ground admission charges rise shatply. The appeal of pay-per-view to quality advertisers is self-evident. Even so, England and the

Even so, England and the League One chubs desperately need to improve the quality of their product if they intend to sell themselves.

• The players' trade union, the Rugby Union Players' Association, has entered the dispute between Twickenham and the clubs over the future of the game and TV deals. With the RFU and the clubs etalled in their discussions, the union wants talks with both and will meet the RFU chairman Chris Brittle

Thorpe steals final

scene

England Av The Rest

Paul Wesser at Chelmsford

HIS audition of match has proved something of a disappointment for the casting directors of English cricket: yesterday Graham Thorpe dominated play like a leading man unwilling to share the stage with lesses

enough about Thorpe; he is probably one of only five Michael Atherion, Graeme Hick, Jack Russell and place when the internation als against India start next

sud go for the last pound in every punter's pocket.

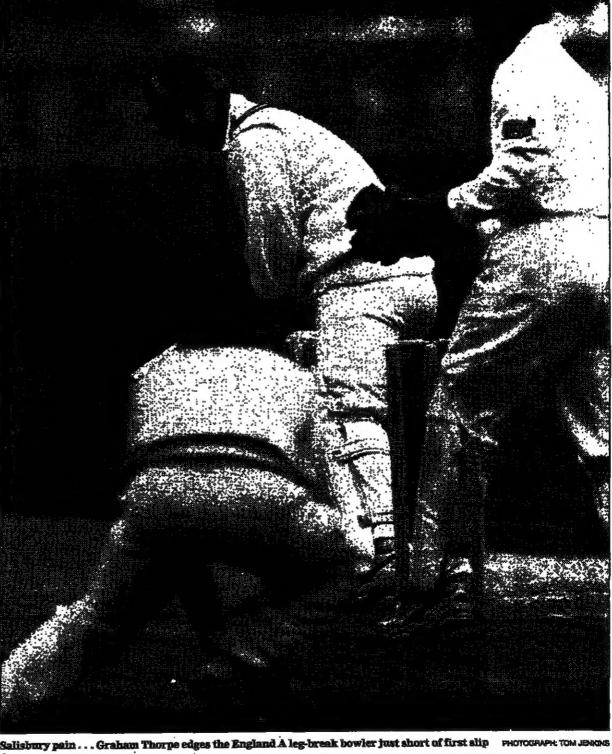
If the European channels Canal Plus and Telepui, which will start charging for French and Italian league soccar matches later this year, constitute a reliable vard. has a respectable Test average of 40.97 from 26 matches and his left-handdress and belligerence are valuable bonuses

One criticism has been his inability to "go on". He has reached fifty 17 times but has made only two centuries. Yesterday he scored an unbeaten 141, athough he should have perished at 74 when Ed Giddins dropped him at long leg off Tim Munion. He batted for almost five

hours, faced 220 bells and hit 19 fours and a six. It was the only big innings of the match although it did not prevent Engine As comfortable win over The Rest by eight wickets with a day and a hit to spare. Munton, who was voted man of the match for his

seven wickets and 54 runs, Giddins and Glen Chapple all had their moments in this Test trial but from the selectors' point of view per-haps the most interesting aspect was the captaincy of Nasser Hussain. Atherton's reappoint-

ment as England captain yesterday was made easter by the shortage of realistic



rival when the job comes up for discussion again in mid-summer.

He greatly impressed in

Pakistan last winter, when his England A side were unbeaten until the final

alternatives. Hussein must last season his contribution together. It was as if they player to provide him with now be viewed as a possible to the side as Paul Priwere carrying on from meaningful company.

The Rest were all out for

David Lloyd, the new England coach, is clearly impressed. The A side did really well in this match. unbeaten until the final They played very much as a one-day match. At Essex team, tight-knit and

Only Thorpe threatened to take this match into the fourth day. Mike Watkinson, who produced a couple of lavish off-drives against Ian Salisbury, was the only

253, leaving England A to get 60 to win. The only disappointment for Hussain was that he was out just two runs short of victory, bowled off-stump as he played forward.

fired yesterday by CSKA Mos-cow on the orders of Russia's defence minister Pavel Grachev. Tikhonov led the army team to 12 successive Soviet League titles starting in 1978 and coached the Soviet team to three Olympic gold medals and eight world titles.

elbowed out of Bulls' final

Cup final against St Helens at Wembley. "But you would have to hit him with a crow-bar to prevent him playing," the coach Brian Smith said

who can play enywhere in the pack, was in the St Helens sides heaten by Wigan in the 1989 and 1991 finals. He was chi, dislocated his shoulder one of three players off-loaded to Bradford last November when Paul Newlove signed. Tony Smith, the 29-year-old for Saints in a record deal worth £500,000. The other two,

N. Committee of the com

from Batley, and Steve McNa-mara, the forward recruited from Hull.

Leeds yesterday confirmed borough Pirates. Clark, who joins Leeds on a two-year contract from Counties-Manu-kau, has played eight times for New Zealand.

he coach Brian Smith said Leeds, who collected their esterday.

Dwyer, a versatile forward against Sheffield on Sunday, need all the reinforcements they can get. Another recent Kiwi acquisition, Nathan Pic-chi, dislocated his shoulder

Tony Smith, the 29-year old younger brother of Bradford's coach, has signed for worth £500,000. The other two, Sonny Nickle and Paul Workington. His work permit is still to be sorted out but Town hope he will make his debut at home against Halifax on May 6 with Brad Nairn. The former Parramatta for the fo Leeds Glen Tomlinson, ward, who is expected to ar-Australian scrum-half rive tomorrow.

Dwyer determined not to be Call for referees as rogue sailors loose anarchy on the high seas

Bob Fisher in Hydres

APLAGRANT disregard for the International Yacht Racing Rules by some competitors here, including several instances of cheat several instances of cheat-ing, has marred the Se-maine Olympique and high-lighted the rising tide of indiscipline on the water.

With vesterday's racing cancelled because of high winds, attention was fo-cased on the problem and Britain's team manager Mike McIntyre suid he bad been appelled by what he

had seen.
On Sunday two French
470s collided at a turning
mark an incident which demanded that one should have taken a pensity turn or protest, but both ignored the infringement. An Ital-ian Soling, whose skilpper was warned at the recent gross misconduct, hit two of the turning marks and continued racing.

The lax attitude to the rules displayed by some sailors has been blamed on the incressed pressure to

succeed, particularly on younger competitors, and the intensification of competition. Along with many of his fellow managers, McIntyre believes the policy of self-

policing, with the onus on competitors to observe the regulations, should be changed as the rules are being increasingly ignored. There is general support for the introduction of ref-erees who could insist on

penalties for infringements being enforced. This would involve several officials along the course and not just at turning marks. Before racing began, the British coach Jim Salton-stall told his team that members involved in pro-

Sport in brief

Motor racing

Audi's appeal against Frank Biela's disqualification from Sunday's fourth round of the RAC Touring Car Champion-ship at Brands Hatch will be heard on Monday or Wednes-

heard on Monday or Wednes-day next week.

The Vauxhall team pro-tested about the Audi's sus-pension system. But Dr Wolf-gang Ullrich, head of Audi Sport, said yesterday: "The suspension on the Audi A4 Quattro was passed legal by the FIA 19 months ago and we have not changed anything. have not changed anything. We have asked the FIA in Paris to confirm in writing our car's legality."

Tennis

Sam Smith wou a singles on her Fed Cup debut but Britain were beaten 2-1 by Bielarus in their opening pool match at La Manga yesterday. She beat Tatiana Ignatieva 6-2. 6-3 to put Britain ahead but Natalia Zvereva, the world No. 21, then overcame Clare Wood and helped Ignatieva best Wood and Valda Lake.

Ice hockey Viktor Tikhonov, the world's most successful coach, was

Teamtalk

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Hudd. Town

Century for Thorpe, page 15

portsGuardian

FA READY TO RING IN THE NEW AS PAUL GASCOIGNE GIVES HIS VOTE TO THE OLD

Hoddle to get England offer Gazza backs Venables

Chelsea to lose manager by July

Martin Thorpe

LENN HODDLE is almost certain to be offered the job of England manager next month tion has decided to approach only someone it is certain will

"There are important people who have not been approached at all because the object is to have a first choice and succeed in getting him rather than go through a list of names and be rebuffed." said a senior FA insider yes terday. "There are one or two specific ideas being taken through to see if an end result can be reached. In that respect people have been approached and we are hoping to get a 'yes' first time."
With Kevin Keegan, Gerry Francis and Bryan Robson

having firmly turned down chance to manage England. Hoddle emerges as the most credible candidate who both wants the job and is out of contract with his club — Cheisea — this summer.

We need to have someone installed at the earliest possible moment," said the insider, "certainly ready to take over on July 1, which would leave two months for the new man before England's first World Cup qualifier."

Hoddle's contract at Chelsea is understood to run out on June 30. He is delaying signing a new one because of uncertainty over financing at the club but it also leaves him free to take the England job, which he is believed to covet. Hoddle has a growing repu-

tation for being adventurous and forward-thinking in his tactics and coaching. But there is just a chance the FA sub-committee charged with finding the new England man-ager may feel he is too inexperienced and not yet successful enough to warrant the job. In which case it will turn to an older man such as the for-

mer manager Bobby Robson.
who is out of contract this
summer at Porto. The England coach Terry Venables
has said be thinks the job would best suit an older man. The FA insider added that the sub-committee has no thoughts of asking Venables to stay on after the European Championship and that there was surprise at recent stories

uggesting he would be asked. Venables's decision to quit after Euro '96 was based on his pending court cases and what he saw as a reluctance by the international committee to renew his contract.

But, said the FA source:

"Nobody expressed a view then that his contract should not be renewed. Trying to find a replacement for some one everyone was happy with was the last thing we wanted. "All that was said to Terry

was that, because he had not proved himself in any competitive matches for England and because the new contract had been portrayed as a foregone conclusion in the press, some members of the international committee wanted to discuss it first.
"Terry interpreted that as a

snub, which was totally incorrect. There was no doubt that later in January or February, Terry's contract would have been renewed. He had said it was the ultimate job, one he had always wanted. It was surprising to see him throw it away so easily. But, though it it had to be accepted and a new coach sought."



Atherton captain against India

ENGLAND yesterday erton as cricket captain for the first half of the

The 28-year-old Lanca-

against India.

Although the captaincy for the subsequent series against Pakistan has been left open, Atherton said he did not regard that as a problem and announced himself "delighted" to be in charme segingt India.

"I feel full of running and refreshed," he said. "The World Cup was very hard and it's been a long winter for everyone. We had a bad World Cup but I think the damage was done before that. I still feel confident I can get the best out of the

layers." England's new coach David Lloyd said: "It took us less than 30 seconds to reappoint Athers. Then we just had to get it rubber stamped by Dennis Silk."

with passion



Richard Williams

neither was there any doubt that Paul Gascoigne's emotions had been engaged by a question about his coach's future.

"A couple of the lads rang me up when Terry got the job, knowing I'd worked with him, to ask me what he was like. I said, 'You'll love him right

way.' And they did." He was talking at Bisham Abbey yesterday, still damp from a drizzly training ses-sion, about his fitness, his disciplinary record, his role within the England side and, most significantly, Terry Venables's impending departure. From long experience, Gas-coigne knows how to give a

press conference what it wants without giving anything away. But his words became noticeably more sponts neous when the subject of the

coach came up.
"I was gutied when I heard
about it." he said. "I thought it
was a real shame. A lot of the players hope it doesn't hap-pen. He's given them some-thing that they could benefit from in the long run. He's done all sorts of things. He's brought in four or five or six 17-year-olds. We never had that chance."

And indeed there had be fresh face taking part in the morning's routines. In among the stars was the slight frame of Jody Morris, a 17-year-old midfielder who is on Chelsea' books and attends the FA. School at Lilleshall

It's the kids who're 14 and 15 now who are going to benefit from what Venners has "And he's done a lot." As a coach, Venables has

his weaknesses. No longer does he show the originality or the pickpocket's instinct for a lethal set-piece play that marked his early years with Crystal Palace and QPR, which suggests that the big job may have come 10 years too late. He has been accused of cronyism. And his England ides rarely reflect the ethnic balance of today's profes-sional football (although, with Ehiogu, Campbell, Sinclair,

Ince and Collymore on the

training pitch yesterday, he may be getting closer).
So what is it about him that impresses the players? He is fluent in their language, of course. He looks the players in the eye. He knows their secrets — their professional se-crets, that is. They know that he knows how hard their job is. And he never, ever criti-

cises them in public. Gascoigne's response to that question was instantaneous. "It's respect. He knows what he's talking about. He knows how football should be played. The lads concentrate when he's talking. They listen to every word. And he tries different things."

GAINST Bulgaria last month Venables had changed the forma-tion at half-time. Modestly, Gascoigne claimed that son the coach's tactical switch had not borne fruit was ecause he himself had missed

a good scoring chance.
"If the FA would say, 'Right, here's a five-year contract,' I think he would accept it," Gascoigne ventured. "But they haven"t, yet, I think he should be around for the next 10 years. Even if I wasn't in the squad, that's how I'd feel.

"The players believe the FA isn't wholly behind him, and I can't see the reason why. The public are behind him, the layers are behind him. you lot, the media, have been good to him. And if we don't keep him, somebody else will snap aim up."

"That's very nice," Vena-bles reponded when Gascoigne's words were related to him a few minutes later. He didn't want to elaborate, and claimed to have been unaware of the players' wish that he should stay. "I've not dis-cussed it with them," he said. "It's lovely to have that sup-port. When I have to cut the squad down to 19 outfield play ers, I might not be so

popular." There was always a suspicion that Venables's original announcement was a way of taking the pressure off himself in the run-up to the European championship, leaving the way open for a change of mind. That, he said yesterday, is out of his hands. And it won't happen, given the mind-set of the FA's international committee. Nor should it, given the state of his legal

But it was interesting, for a few minutes vesterday morning, to hear a footballer speak from the heart, with passion. Seldom happens. Impressive when it does.

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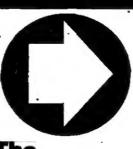
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shire opener will oversee the three one-day interna-tionals and three Tests

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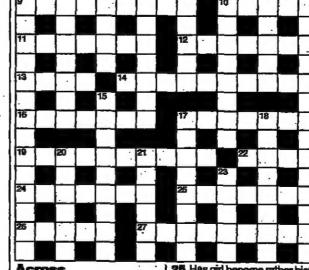
Mike Selvey, page 15

Guardian Crossword No 20,634



The continual burying of heads in the island's sands will only leave the system on Sark so open to attack that in the end a complete collapse of that system is inevitable. Inside Story

G2 page



10 I get gloomy without my

- front (7) 12 Different but possibly related (7)
- 13 Small brook or river, not well
- 14 Duke having a good relationship with Gates heavyweight (10)
- 16 A mountain could be so
- lumpy (7) 17 Charge fish with not being cold-blooded? (7)
- 19 Knocks grapes said to be sour? (10)
- 22 Don't eat head of fish a second time (4)
- 26 in which one is followed by
- 27 Saw screenplay performed Down
- 1 Writer or musical craftsman 2 Poles planted arridst ceres

three or more? (5)

- in Yorkshire town (8) 3 Mountain range in which a
- 4 Worker in prison requiring armour? (8 & Attack very musical learner (6)
- 6 Swollen, like nudist or sadist? (9) 7 Poet's tiptop wine (6)
- B Why is the good and bad 15 Be fluent in an Micit dram-

17 Most weak bees felt funny

- 18 Slowcoach at one, rising with Europeans (8 20 Money for a one-legged sea-cook (6)
- 21 Edits a manuscript without 23 Father returned flower that's

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